J/J.

A

COMPENDIUM

OF THE MOST APPROVED

MODERN TRAVELS.

CONTAINING

A distinct Account of the RELIGION, GOVERNMENT, COMMERCE, MANNERS, and NATURAL HISTORY of several Nations.

VOLUME THE FIRST.

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A COMPENDIUM OF MODERN TRAVELS.

A JOURNEY From ALEPPO to JERUSALEM,

By Mr. HENRY MAUNDREL, Chaplain to the Engliſh Factory at Aleppo.

CHAP. I.

An account of the Turkiſh accommodation; our author arrives at Kefteen; the plains thereof vaſtly populous; a fine inn or Kane; a very remarkable fiſſure; brutality of the Aga of Bellulia; a violent ſtorm; of the city Latichea; ſome antient ſepulchres.

MR. Maundrel ſet out from Aleppo to viſit Jeruſalem, on the 26th of February, 1699, accompanied by fourteen gentlemen belonging to the Eng-

liſh factory, and lay that night at Honey Kane, about an hour and a half weſt of that city. In his ſetting out, he obſerves, that travellers muſt not expect to find inns, or market-towns here as in England, being obliged either to lie in tents, or in certain public foundations particularly adapted to their reception. Buildings of this nature ſtand almoſt every where, in the Turkiſh dominions, at convenient diſtances, where, for a trifling conſideration, people are accommodated with a roof and bare walls; but if a man does not bring with him his own bedding, drink, and proviſion, he ſtands but a poor chance of being ſupplied with any. Theſe places are built like cloiſters; they are commonly thirty or forty yards ſquare, and the Turks call them Kanes.

The following day they travelled five hours, and paſſed by an old village, called Oo-rem, remarkable only for the ruins of a ſmall church; and that night they encamped on the plains of Keſteen. Theſe are of a vaſt extent, well cultivated, and covered with villages, of which, or ſomething very like them, they counted twen-

ty-four, perceptible to the naked eye. The ſoil to the ſouthward is of a reddiſh colour, looſe, and quite free from ſtones; whereas to the weſtward there runs a high ridge of rocky hills, whereon there is not the leaſt appearance of mold or earth.

KEFTEEN is a pleaſant village, on the weſt of the plain, ſurrounded with corn-fields, and having ſuch plenty of pigeons, that one may reckon more dove-cots than dwelling-houſes. There are many ruins of old buildings, ſuppoſed to have been monaſteries, among the mountains; and from the impreſſion of a croſs, and a Greek inſcription upon a marble ſtone that is over the door of a bagnio, there is reaſon to believe that it formerly belonged to a Chriſtian church.

FEBRUARY 28th, they roſe early in the morning, having a long journey to make, and in three quarters of an hour came to a village, which terminates theſe fruitful plains. Here they croſſed a ſmall aſcent, and ſteered their courſe through a pleaſant valley, called Rooge, which runs eaſt and weſt, being bounded on each ſide by very high mountains. In four hours they came

to a lake, over which they had ſome trouble to ferry their mules and other baggage; yet, at their return, they found the ground here ſo dry, that they could ſcarcely believe it to be the ſame ſpot.

At Te-ne-ree, an hour's riding beyond this lake, they paid their firſt Caphar, a duty collected at ſeveral different paſſes to keep the roads in repair, and guard them from the incurſions of robbers. Theſe duties were firſt ſet on foot by the Chriſtians; and the Turks take care in the demanding of them to impoſe upon ſuch Franks as paſs this way, in a moſt unreaſonable manner: nay, inſtead of being a protection, they are ſometimes the greateſt nuiſance.

Their ſtage this day was ten hours, in which they paſſed over the hills weſt of Rooge, and baited that night at Shoggle; it is a large diſagreeable town, lying on the river Orontes, over which there is a bridge of thirteen arches. The water here is extremely rapid; very unwholſome; and the fiſh that it nouriſhes, is ſuch bad food, that thoſe of this company who chanced to eat of it, found themſelves very much out of order the enſuing morning. They

here lodged in one of the beſt Kanes to be met with on the road; it was built by the ſecond Cuperli; and here every traveller is ſupplied with a competent portion of bread, broth, and meat, which is always ready for thoſe who chuſe to aſk for it, in which the country people are ſeldom backward: it was crouded with a number of Turkiſh Hadgees, or pilgrims, bound to Mecca, who deported themſelves in a very peaceable manner.

THEIR next day's journey was pleaſantly variegated with hills and dales, open plains, and encloſed roads; myrtles, tulips, marygolds, flowers of the moſt beautiful hue, and aromatic herbs bloomed in ſome places all around them; in others, the ſcene ſhifted, and was for a while wild, ſtony, and barren, while impetuous torrents rolled fiercely along, and perhaps diſcharged themſelves over the tops of adjacent precipices.

IN a valley, which they rode through this day, there is a very remarkable fiſſure or crack in the earth, the depth of which is about thirty yards, and the breadth four; over it is a ſmall arch, which our compa-

ny paſſed; there is ſomething extremely horrid in the noiſe made by a ſtream which pours into this fiſſure, from the hill that commands it, and by the conſtant flux of which, it ſeems to have been cut out of the ſolid rock; the ſides of it are ſmooth, perpendicular, and in ſome places waved. This narrow channel is called the Sheack's Wife, after a woman of quality who fell into it and periſhed.

MARCH 2d, they arrived, after about two hours riding, at the foot of a mountain called Occaby, which they clambered up with much difficulty; the way being ſteep and ſlippery, becauſe of the moiſture of the weather. Having reached the top of this hill, they found themſelves in a well cultivated country, abounding with mulberries, and multitudes of ſilk worms. Here they came to a village, where the Kane was very bad and open to the weather: for this reaſon they viſited the Aga, who had a houſe adjoining; and though they carried in their hand a handſome preſent, it was not without difficulty they prevailed upon him to afford them a dry corner.

THIS village is called Bellulia; and has

a few Chriſtian inhabitants, whoſe church is ſo very poor, that here Chriſt may be once again ſaid to be laid in a manger. It is a very dirty room, about four or five yards ſquare; the ground an uneven pavement, and the ceiling a few rude traves covered with buſhes; the altar is built with earth, and on the top of it are ſlates and pot-ſherds, which gave it the air of a table: there is a ſmall croſs compoſed of two laths nailed in the middle, and on each ſide two or three old prints, repreſenting the Holy Virgin, her Son, &c. Theſe had been the gifts of ſome travelling friars: near a plank, which was ſupported by a poſt, and ſerved for a deſk, was a hole broke through the wall to give light to the reader. Yet mean as this building was, the people approached it with much reverence, making it the repoſitory of their moſt valuable effects; and hanging their ſilkworm bags round about, thereby to receive a benediction.

March 3d, they travelled four hours through very bad roads, it raining all the while very heavily; and then they arrived at a poor village called Sholfatia. Here runs a ſmall river, which was now conſi-

derably encreaſed by the wet weather. The houſes of this place were ſo extremely dirty, the people and their cattle living promiſcuouſly together, that the ſtench was intolerable: there being no intermittance of rain, it was impoſſible to encamp in the open country; there was no ſuch thing as going back; and the river was not fordable; the rain rather encreaſed than diminiſhed, while the lightning flaſhed from every quarter, and it thundered inceſſantly.

They now betook themſelves to a riſing-ground, where they propoſed to pitch their tents, but were prevented by the ſeverity of the weather; nor was their uneaſineſs on account of their ſervants and horſes leſs than for themſelves, when perceiving a ſmall Sheck's houſe, or burying-place, at a diſtance, they entertained hopes of there finding ſhelter: but in this expectation they were diſappointed; for the Turks abſolutely refuſed them the favour they ſolicited, and ſwore they would die upon their ſwords, rather than permit the place at any rate to be entered by unbelievers. "To be true to Hamet and Ali," they ſaid, "was their faith, by which they

"resolved to ſtand or fall, hating and re-
"nouncing Omar and Abu-Beker." However, with good words they were at laſt prevailed upon to let them ſecure their baggage here; and at night, the travellers taking advantage of the darkneſs, ſtole in and ſpent ſome melancholy hours among the tombs. They were well ſatisfied to get any ſhelter, for it continued to rain heavily. The next day they received intelligence of a part of the river farther down, where it was fordable; and thither they immediately removed with their baggage, glad of an opportunity to quit this inhoſpitable covert.

HAVING croſſed the river, they aſcended a ſteep hill, from the top of which they had a view of the ocean, and of the city Latichea; which is very antient, and was formerly a place of great magnificence, but ſhared in the general calamities of this part of the world; of late, however, it has revived a little under Coplan Aga, a man of great property, much authority, and a lover of commerce.

THIS city lies cloſe upon the ſea, in a plentiful flat country, and is well ſituated

for trade; deſcending this hill, they kept the ſea on their right hand, and the ridge of mountains on their left. Not far from the road, they diſcerned two ſtone cavities, each thirty feet long; the outſides of them were adorned with carvings of ox-heads, and inſcriptions, the characters of which were eaten out by time. They appeared to have been tombs, and the ſtones which covered them had been thrown aſide, by ſome perſons who probably ſearched for treaſure. There appeared to be ſeveral foundations of buildings in the neighbourhood; but whether or no this had ever been a place of any note, our author does not take upon him to affirm.

In about an hour from theſe tombs they came to the banks of another river, which being ſwelled, again ſtopped their progreſs. It is dangerous venturing over theſe ſtreams, which take their riſe in the mountains, unleſs a man be well acquainted with the country, and knows in what particular places they are moſt ſhallow. However, at length they found a ford, and made the beſt of their way to Jebilee, leaving their baggage behind them, becauſe

it hailed and rained exceſſively; and here they reſted themſelves moſt of the following day in a new Kane, built by Oſtan Baſha, of Tripoli.

JEBILEE is a poor place, lying cloſe by the ſea-ſide in a plentiful country, and was formerly of more note than at preſent. In the time of the Greek emperors, it was a biſhop's ſee, and Severian, the great enemy of St. Chryſoſtom, once filled the epiſcopal chair.

A CERTAIN ſultan, Ibrahim, lies here in a moſque built by himſelf, cloſe to which there is an alms-houſe. Though the Turks hold his memory in great veneration, they permitted Mr. Maundrel and his company to have a ſight of it: there is a great wooden cheſt over his grave, covered with painted callicoe, reaching every way to the ground; and round it are hung large beads of ropes, that give it the appearance of a button-maker's ſhop. It is common among the Turks to ſhew their veneration for the dead, by hanging ſuch ornaments round their graves. In this moſque are many pieces of ſuperb church-furniture, brought hither from Cyprus; and

there is an elegant bagnio, together with a charming orange grove close to it, where travellers pitch their tents.

The Turks are fully persuaded of the existence of this same Ibrahim, of whom no traces can be found in history; and they shew a grotto near the sea-side, wherein they affirm that he lived a solitary life, for twenty years after, having divested himself of regality. This grotto is hewn out of a rock, and lies in the midst of several sepulchres near the sea-side, where in former ages the people of this country used to inter their dead. They also point out an oratory, wherein there are three niches, in which he was accustomed to perform his devotions; these niches in size, fabric, and every other circumstance, are like such as we see made for statues. The mussulmen are always obliged when they pray, to turn their faces towards Mecca; perhaps these particular marks and directions are founded upon their iconoclastic principle, expressive of the reality and invisibility of the divine presence.

Two furlongs from this town, the Greek Christians performed their sacred service

in a rocky grotto, open towards the ſea, upon the ſhore of which it lies; and the altar is a pile of ſtones. There is a huge maſs of ſquare ſtones at Jebilee, running a good way into the ſea, which was formerly a mole for the uſe of ſhipping. The grand pillars and capitals of white marble which are here ſcattered up and down, are ſome proofs of the antient ſplendor of the place.

Just at the north gate are the ruins of a theatre, on one ſide of which the ſeats of the ſpectators remain ſtill entire; but the Turks have blown up a part of it, and jammed up the reſt with houſes. The outward wall, built of large firm ſtones, is three yards three quarters thick, to which ſtrength we may attribute its having been preſerved from that abſolute deſtruction carried every where with it by the Turkiſh barbarity.

In the mountains above Jebilee there are a ſort of people called Neceres, who have no particular religion, but always profeſs the ſame principles with the people that travel among them; with Jews

they are Jews; with Chriſtians, Chriſtians; and Turks with Turks.

March 6th, our author left Jebilee, in hopes of better weather, of which there was ſome proſpect; and in four hours arrived at the Balanea of Strabo, at preſent called by the Turks Baneas; and here they require a Caphar. This town lies upon a clear ſwift ſtream, a furlong from the ſea, and is at preſent uninhabited; there are many ſquare towers, and ruined buildings upon the road, which teſtify the antient populouſneſs of the place.

An hour beyond Baneas, there ſtands a caſtle upon a high hill, of the former ſtrength of which the Turks tell a number of ſtories, enlarging much upon the ſieges that it ſuſtained; however, at preſent its ſtrength appears to be but indifferent, and it is inhabited by ſome poor peaſants. This probably is the Margeth mentioned by Adriconius, whither the biſhops of Balanea tranſlated their ſee, to avoid the inſults of the Saracens.

The next day they arrived at Tortoſa, the antient Orthoeſia, formerly a biſhop's ſee, and frequently ſpoken of in the hiſto-

ries of the Holy War. On one ſide it is waſhed by the ſea, and on the others it is fortified by a double wall of coarſe marble, built in the ruſtic faſhion. Between the walls is a ditch, as likewiſe is another encompaſſing the outermoſt wall; you enter this fortreſs on the north ſide, over an old draw-bridge, which lands you in a ſpacious apartment, now for the moſt part uncovered, but antiently well arched over, being the church belonging to the caſtle. On one ſide it reſembles a church, and in witneſs of its being ſuch, ſhews at this day ſeveral holy emblems carved upon its wall; as that of a dove deſcending over the place where ſtood the altar; and in another place, that of a holy lamb; but on the ſide which fronts outward, it has the face of a caſtle; being built with port-holes for artillery, inſtead of windows.

Round the caſtle on the ſouth and eaſt ſides, ſtood antiently the city; it had a good wall and ditch encompaſſing it; but for other buildings, there is now nothing left in it, except a church, which ſtands about a furlong eaſtward from the caſtle; its walls, arches, and pillars are of a ba-

ſtard marble; and all ſtill ſo entire, that a ſmall expence would ſuffice to reſtore it again to a beautiful ſtate; but it is a melancholy ſight to Chriſtians to ſee this place a foot deep in mire, and turned into a ſtall for cattle.

In three quarters of an hour, or rather an hour, from Tortoſa, they pitched their tents upon an eminence near Aradus; and not very far from the ſea. Here they obſerved a dike ſtretching eaſt and weſt, for more than a furlong, with parallel ſtairs cut all along its ſides. It broke off about two furlongs from the ſea, at a flat marſhy ground. It is hard to ſay what could have been the uſe of this dike, and ſtill harder to imagine that the water ever flowed up ſo high. Here is alſo a court fifty-five yards ſquare, hewn out of a rock, part of which ſtands in the center, three yards high, and five and a half ſquare, which ſerves as a pedeſtal to a throne erected upon it, compoſed of four large ſtones; one of each ſide, one at the back, and the fourth ſtanding in place of a canopy; this laſt was five yards and three quarters ſquare, with a carved cornice: perhaps this ſtructure

might have been formerly a temple of Hercules, and the throne ſacred to the idol, it being uſual to worſhip him in the open air.

At the diſtance of half a mile to the ſouthward were two towers, into which our company made their way, through a ſtrong oppoſition of weeds, rubbiſh, and briars. They found them to be divided into vaults, for the interment of the dead; ſome of them were eight feet and a half long; though we would not from thence infer, that the bodies which they were appointed to receive were of a gigantic ſtature; yet at the ſame time we cannot help thinking it ſtrange, that men ſhould be ſo prodigal of their labour, as to dig in theſe ſolid rocks farther than neceſſity required. Our author imagines, from the multitude of old foundations, ſepulchres, and other remains of antiquity that abound here, this muſt have once been ſome very famous place, perhaps the Ximyra of Strabo, the ſame probably with the country of the Zemarides, mentioned in the tenth chapter of Geneſis.

Having quitted viewing theſe antiqui-

ties, they bent their courſe towards Tripoli; being ſeven hours paſſing over a ſpacious plain, which was extremely fruitful, and finely watered with ſeveral ſtreams, over which there was here and there a handſome ſtone bridge. As they drew near Tripoli, their muleteers were afraid to advance, leſt their beaſts ſhould be preſſed for public ſervice, which was afterwards the caſe, in ſpite of every precaution, tho' they left them in the large plain beforementioned, the name of which is Iunica, and arrived at Tripoli before ſun-ſet. Here they ſtaid a week, and found very generous treatment from Mr. Francis Haſtings, the Engliſh conſul, and a merchant of the name of Fiſher. With the latter they one day dined by the ſide of a river, in a delightful valley, about a mile eaſt of the city: acroſs this valley there runs from hill to hill a noble aqueduct, carrying a ſufficiency of water to ſupply all Tripoli; it is called the Prince's Bridge, and thought to have been the work of Godfrey of Bolloign.

CHAP. II.

Tripoli deſcribed; the ſurpriſing ignorance of the Greek monks; a drole compliment made by one of them; their manner of ſpending their time; the manner of receiving viſits in Turkey; of perfuming their beards; of ſome ruins noted by Caſaubon; the river weeping blood; of the Maronites; of the place where St. George killed the dragon; an account of Emir Facardine; his palace, and its precincts deſcribed.

TRIPOLI ſtands about half an hour from the ſea, having two hills, one to the eaſt, upon which is a caſtle commanding the town; and another on the weſt, ſtanding between it and the ſea. This latter is ſaid to have been at firſt raiſed from the ſand of the ſhore, blown together in a heap, and daily encreaſing in ſuch a manner, that if old prophecies are to be believed, it will one day prove the grave of the whole city; of this, however, the inhabitants ſeem to be very little afraid.

On the 11th of March our travellers dined with the conſul, and were afterwards introduced to the baſhaw of Tripoli, having ſecured themſelves a welcome reception by a previous preſent. It is an old eaſtern cuſtom at a viſit to any great man, to carry an offering in token of reſpect, and to omit it, would be interpreted into an affront; nay, even among inferior people, you ſhall find them preſent each other with a flower, or an orange.

In the afternoon of the 12th, they viſited a great convent, called Belmount; it is founded upon a very high rock, ſcarcely acceſſible, having at top a fine proſpect of the ſea; their chapel is large, but dark, and their altar muſt be approached by none but their prieſt, which is cuſtomary in all the Greek churches. As the Turks have a ſpecial averſion to bells, theſe monks ſummon their congregation together by beating a rough ſort of tune with two mallets on a plank at the church door.

Their ſervice conſiſts in a few prayers and hymns irreverently chattered out to our bleſſed Saviour and the holy Virgin: the prieſt compaſſes the altar ſeveral times,

perfuming it with a cenſer; and repeating the ceremony of preſenting incenſe three times to each of the congregation. Five ſmall cakes, with each a lighted wax taper ſtuck in the middle, are brought into the body of the church upon a ſmall table, covered with a clean linen cloth; and then the prieſt reads the goſpel, concerning our Lord's feeding the multitude with five loaves. Theſe cakes are afterwards broken to bits, and in a baſket preſented to the congregation, each of which takes a little; this collation being over, the prieſt gives the benediction, and the whole is at an end. This is their evening ſervice, and of it our author was an eye-witneſs. There are ſtalls round this church, ſuch as are uſed by the fellows of the colleges in Oxford; and a pair of crutches hangs by the ſide of each, on which, when weary, they lean, it being againſt their rubric to ſit during the celebration of ſervice, which is very long. The young monks, as well as the old ones, make uſe of theſe, as in Spain they wear ſpectacles, rather through an affectation of gravity, than out of real neceſſity. There were forty

monks in this convent, who were good-natured and induſtrious, but ſo very ignorant, they could by no means account for any of the ceremonies uſed in their divine ſervice. There is ſomething extremely ſimple in the chief of them telling the conſul, that had the Meſſiah himſelf honoured the convent with a viſit, he could not have been more rejoiced. Neither their ſimplicity nor ignorance will be much wondered at, if we remember that he who officiates at the altar, is obliged to till the ground, to prune the vineyards, and to tend upon his flock; labours which they muſt neceſſarily undergo, to provide for their own ſuſtenance, as well as to be able to ſatisfy the unreaſonable avarice of the Turks, who are eternally exacting from and impoſing on them.

You cannot perhaps have a better idea of theſe monks, than from being told, that he whom our author had ſeen celebrate divine ſervice the preceding evening, came the enſuing morning with a kid and a borachio of wine upon his ſhoulders, being a preſent from the convent.

March 13th, our company paid a ſe-

cond viſit to the baſha, and were received in a very courteous manner; for the Turks are neither ſtrangers to the arts of civility nor of endearment: perhaps it may not be improper in this place to deſcribe the ceremonies of a Turkiſh viſit.

HAVING beſpoke your reception by a preſent, the hour is appointed for you to attend; when coming to the houſe, you are met by a ſervant at the outer-gate, who conducts you to another domeſtic; thus you are paſſed to the maſter, who receives you either ſtanding upon the edge or lying upon one corner of the Divan. The Divan is a ſtage raiſed in the beſt part of the room, about a foot and a half from the floor, ſpread with carpets, and bolſters whereon to lean; the Turks generally furniſh them in the richeſt manner, and upon them ſpend moſt of their time, in eating, ſleeping, praying and entertaining viſitors. Being come to the ſide of the Divan, you ſlip off your ſhoes, and ſtepping up, take your place, which you do firſt at ſome diſtance, and upon your knees, laying your hands very formally before you.

THUS you muſt remain till invited to

draw nearer, and to put yourſelf in an eaſier poſture. Being ſettled, the maſter of the houſe diſcourſes as occaſion offers; the ſervants ſtanding round all the while in great order, and obſerving a profound ſilence. When you have talked over your buſineſs, or paſſed the uſual compliments, he makes a ſign for the entertainment; which generally conſiſts of ſome ſweetmeats, a diſh of ſherbet, and another of coffee, all which are immediately brought in by the ſervants, and tendered to every gueſt with the greateſt reſpect. Indeed the ſervants have reaſon to look well to it, for ſhould they make but the ſlighteſt miſtake, it might ſubject them to a ſevere baſtinade: the concluſion of the entertainment is perfuming the beards of the company; a ceremony which is performed thus:

They have for this purpoſe a ſmall ſilver chaffing-diſh, covered with a lid full of holes, and fixed upon a handſome frame; in this they put ſome freſh coals, and upon them a piece of lignum aloes; and then ſhutting it up, the ſmoak aſcends through the holes of the cover. This chaffing-diſh is held under every one's chin, and the

ſmoak offered as if a ſacrifice to his beard. The briſtly idol ſoon perceives the reverence done it, and ſo greedily engroſſes the ſteam, that it retains the ſavour of it a good while after.

THIS ceremony may perhaps ſeem ridiculous at firſt hearing; but it paſſes among the Turks for an high gratification. And this may be ſaid in its vindication, that its deſign is very wiſe and uſeful; for it is underſtood as a civil diſmiſſion to the viſitors, intimating that the maſter of the houſe has ſome avocation; and that the ſooner they depart the better. By this means you may, at any time, without offence, deliver yourſelf from being detained from your affairs, by tedious and unſeaſonable viſits; and from being conſtrained to uſe that piece of hypocriſy ſo common in the world, of preſſing thoſe to ſtay longer with you, whom perhaps in your heart you wiſh a great way off for having troubled you ſo long already.

HAVING finiſhed their viſit, they rode out to take a view of the port, which is half a mile diſtant from the city, open to the ſea, and defended from the force of the

waves by two ſmall iſlands, one of which abounds with birds, and the other with rabbits, from whence they ſeverally derive their denomination.

THERE are ſix ſquare towers built along the ſhore, at convenient diſtances, to ſecure the place from pirates; but they are void of arms and ammunition. There are ſome fine ruins in the fields that look to the ſea, which confirm what Caſaubon advances in his notes upon Strabo, viz. That here were formerly three cities ſtanding in a cluſter a furlong diſtant from each other, and we need not ſeek farther for the derivation of the word Tripoli.

ON the 15th, our company determined to purſue their journey, but were hindered, becauſe the muleteers were not to be found, they having fled in a panic from the ſervants of the baſha of Sidon, who were abroad, preſſing mules for their maſter's ſervice. However, about three o' clock they had furniſhed themſelves with freſh beaſts, and went forward, keeping cloſe to the ſea; which brought them to a high promontory, where they turned off to the left, and as night came on, pitched their

tents in a vale of olives. The next day they croſſed the Cape near this promontory, which was very ſteep and rugged.

On the other ſide of it they had an open view of the ſea, and paſſed into a narrow valley; the entry of which is defended by a caſtle called Temſeida. Half an hour after, they paſſed by Patrona, but there are few remaining marks of its having been a place of any conſiderable note. Three hours more brought them to Gibyle, called by the Greeks Bibulus, famous for the temple of Apollo, who is ſuppoſed here to have had his birth. It is encompaſſed with a dry ditch, a wall, and ſquare towers, forty yards diſtant from each other; it was formerly a place of great extent, and very handſome, though at preſent it boaſts nothing remarkable, but a few tumbling pillars, that are ſtrewed up and down the neighbouring gardens.

Here they paſſed over a fine bridge, and lay that night in their tents, by the waterſide, during a ſtorm of wind and rain, that was almoſt ſtrong enough to blow them away. In the morning, they found the river of a bloody colour, proceeding doubt-

leſs from ſome red mineral that had been waſhed into it by the tempeſt. And thus we may ſee the foundation which Lucian has for aſſerting, that at certain ſeaſons of the year, this river, which is doubtleſs the antient Adonis, though by the Turks called Ibraham Baſa, weeps blood for the death of the favourite of Venus, who was killed by a wild boar; and this ſympathetic fondneſs is more particularly manifeſted during the feaſt of that hero.

HAVING paſſed this river, they fell into a road lying between the ſteep mountains of Caſtravan, famous for its wines, and the ſea, which is here called the Bay of Junia: towards the farther ſide of which was a large ſquare tower; and buildings of this kind are ſaid to extend along the coaſt, ſeveral days journey, having been erected by the empreſs Helena, as a defence againſt pirates. Here a caphar was collected from them by ſome Maronites, who are infinitely more inſolent in office than the Turks. The Maronites inhabit all the neighbouring mountains, and on one of them there is a convent, where a certain biſhop of theſe people, who claims the ec-

cleſiaſtical juriſdiction of Aleppo, has his reſidence.

An hour more brought them to the river Licus, otherwiſe Canis, called by the Turks Nahor Kelp; it takes its name from an oracular image, in form of a dog, which in antient times was here worſhipped; its body is pointed out to ſtrangers, lying with its heels upwards in the water; but they tell you that the head is preſerved as a curioſity even to this day at Venice. Modern geographers confound this river with Adonis, though experimental obſervation point out very plainly the difference.

Near this is a good bridge of four arches, and cloſe to the foot of it an inſcription in Arabic, ſetting forth that it was the work of Emir Facardine, of whom we ſhall have occaſion to ſpeak more largely anon. Being over the river, you aſcend a rocky mountain, by means of a paſſage, cut thro' it at the expence of the emperor Antoninus; otherwiſe there would have been no paſſage between this and the ſea. The memory of the founder of ſo uſeful a work is preſerved in an inſcription cut in the rock itſelf. Here are ſome ſigns that there

was formerly an older road, and ſeveral figures of men as large as life carved upon the rock in mezzo relievo, under which there were formerly explanatory characters; but theſe are blotted out by time.

Mr. Maundrel regrets his having been hurried away before he had leiſure to ſatiſfy his curioſity with a ſufficient view of theſe antiquities, his company quitting the place on account of the ſtorm.

Farther on upon the banks of the river Beroote, there is a chapel ſacred to St. George, who is ſaid to have here killed the Dragon; but it is now turned into a moſque.

The day following they ſpent at Beroote, being credibly informed that the river Damers, which lay in their next ſtage, was ſo encreaſed by the late rains, that it would be impaſſable. This place was called antiently Berytus, from which the idol Baal Berith is ſuppoſed to have had its name; it afterwards had many privileges conferred upon it by Auguſtus, together with a new name, viz. Julia Felix. At preſent it retains nothing of its ancient felicity, except the ſituation, and in that parti-

cular it is indeed very happy. It is ſeated on the ſea-ſide, in a ſoil fertile and delightful, raiſed only ſo high above the water, as to be ſecure from its overflowings, and from all noxious and unwholeſome effects of that element.

It has the benefit of good freſh ſprings, flowing down to it from the adjacent hills, and diſperſed all over the city in convenient and neat fountains; but beſides thoſe advantages, it has at preſent nothing elſe to boaſt of.

The Emir Facardine has his chief reſidence in this place; in the reign of ſultan Morat, he was the fourth emir, or prince of the Druſes, a people ſuppoſed to have been deſcended from ſome diſperſed remainders of thoſe Chriſtian armies that engaged in the Cruſades for the recovery of the Holy Land; who afterwards being totally routed, and deſpairing of being able to return to their native country, betook themſelves to the mountains. Facardine, the prince of thoſe people, not contented with being cooped up in a corner, by his power and artifice enlarged his dominions

down into the plain, all along the ſea-coaſt, as far as from this place to Acra.

THE grand ſeignior at length growing jealous of ſuch a ſwelling power, attacked and drove him back to the mountains from whence he had broke looſe; and there his poſterity maintain their ſovereignty to this day. Our travellers went to view the palace of the prince, which ſtands on the north eaſt part of the city. At the entrance of it is a marble fountain, of greater beauty than is uſually ſeen in Turkey. The palace within conſiſts of ſeveral courts, which are falling to ruin, and many of them appear never to have been finiſhed. The ſtable-yards for horſes, dens for lions, and other wild creatures, the gardens, &c. are ſuch as would not be unworthy of a ſovereign of Chriſtendom, were they wrought up to that perfection of which they are capable, and to which they ſeem to have been deſigned by their firſt contriver.

THE beſt ſight that this place affords, is the orange garden; it contains a large quadrangular plat of ground, divided into ſixteen leſſer ſquares, four in a row, with walks between them, delightfully ſhaded with

orange trees of a large ſpreading ſize, and all of ſo fine a growth, that nothing can be more perfect. At this time they were gilded with fruit, hanging thick upon them. Each of the ſixteen leſſer ſquares was bordered with ſtone, and in the ſtone-work were ſet well-contrived channels for conveying the water all over the garden; there being little outlets cut at every tree for the ſtream as it paſſed by to flow out and water it. Were this place under the cultivation of an European gardener of taſte, it is impoſſible any thing could be made more delightful. But they were now applied to no better uſe than to ſerve as a fold for ſheep and goats, inſomuch, that in many places they were up to their knees in dirt: ſo little ſenſe have the Turks of ſuch refined delights as theſe, being a people generally of the groſſeſt apprehenſion, and knowing few other pleaſures but ſuch ſenſualities as are equally common both to men and beaſts.

On the eaſt-ſide of this garden were two terrace-walks, riſing one above the other, each of them having an aſcent to it of twelve ſteps. They had both ſeveral beautiful and

properly diſpoſed ſhades of orange trees upon them. And at the north end were booths, ſummer-houſes, and other charming apartments, being deſigned by Facardine for the chief ſeat of his pleaſures.

It may perhaps be wondered how this emir ſhould be able to contrive any thing ſo elegant and regular, ſeeing the Turkiſh gardens are uſually nothing elſe but a confuſed olio of trees, jumbled together without art or deſign; ſo that they ſeem like thickets, rather than gardens. But Facardine had been in Italy, where he had ſeen things of another nature, and knew well how to copy them in his own country. For indeed it appears by theſe remains, that he muſt needs have been a man of abilities much above the ordinary level of a Turkiſh genius.

In another garden are to be ſeen ſeveral pedeſtals for ſtatues; from whence it may be inferred, that this emir was no very zealous Mahometan. At one corner of the ſame garden ſtands a tower ſixty feet high, deſigned to have been carried to a much greater elevation for a watch-tower, and for that end built with extraordinary

ſtrength, its walls being twelve feet thick.

From this tower there is a good view of the whole city, and a large Chriſtian church, ſaid to have been firſt conſecrated to St. John the Evangeliſt; but the Turks have turned it into a moſque, and will permit Chriſtians to view it only at a diſtance.

Another church in the town there is, which ſeems to be antient, but being a mean fabric, is ſuffered to remain in the hands of the Greeks. It is adorned with abundance of old pictures; amongſt the reſt is that of Neſtorius, who commonly makes one amongſt the ſaints painted in the Greek churches, though they do not now profeſs, nor, in our author's opinion, ſo much as know his hereſy. But that which is here moſt obſervable, is an old figure of a ſaint, drawn at full length, with a large beard reaching down to his feet. The curate called it St. Nicephorus; and obſerved, that he was a perſon of the moſt eminent virtues in his time; but his great misfortune was, that the endowments of his mind were not ſet off with the outward ornaments of his beard; a want that threw him into a deep melancholy, of which the

devil taking an advantage, promiſed to give him that boon which nature had denied, in caſe he would comply with his ſuggeſtions. The ſaint, though very deſirous of the reward propoſed, unwilling to purchaſe it at that rate, rejected the bribe with indignation, declaring reſolutely, that he had rather for ever deſpair of his wiſh, than obtain it upon ſuch terms. And at the ſame time, taking in his hand the downy tuft upon his chin, to witneſs the ſtability of his reſolution, (for he had it ſeems beard enough to ſwear by) behold! as a reward for his righteouſneſs he found the hair immediately ſtretch with the pluck that he then gave it; and finding it in ſo good a humour, he perſiſted to pull it, till he had drawn it down to his feet.

THERE are ſeven or eight granite pillars on the eaſt of Beroote; and the town-wall on the ſouth ſeems to have been formed out of the ruins of the old city; ſeveral pieces of pillars, and marble, entering into the compoſition. Without the walls are ſome remnants of moſaic flooring, broken pillars, pieces of poliſhed marble, and mutilated ſtatues; theſe lie in a heap of rub-

biſh, which ſpeak the former ſplendour of the place. There is an old ruined caſtle, and ſome remains of a mole on the ſea-ſide.

CHAP. III.

Of the river Damer, and the adjacent country; of Sidon, and the duties of the French conſul; of the antient and preſent ſtate of Tyre; Solomon's ciſterns accounted for, and deſcribed; of the fate of the city of Acra; heroiſm of the abbeſs and nuns of a Greek monaſtery; variance of the Arabs; how kept on foot.

THEY left this place on the 19th of March, and in their way to the banks of the Damer, paſſed over a plain, on which was a grove of pines, yielding a moſt delightful ſhade. They ſuppoſed it to be one of Facardine's plantations. To the left, they ſaw a ſmall village, called Suckfoal; it belongs to the Druſes, a race of people who overſpread a tract of mountains, ſtretching from Caſtravan to Carmel. The

preſent prince Hamet is grandſon of Facardine, and like his anceſtors, never ſleeps in the night-time, fearful of aſſaſſination; an act that may be more eaſily perpetrated in darkneſs than by day-light.

The river Damer is apt to ſwell with ſudden rain, and to become a torrent fatal to many a paſſenger. At this time it was very mild, and far from being dangerous. Here they found fellows ſtripped ready as it were to help them in croſſing; but they did not chuſe to accept of their aſſiſtance, having been previouſly adviſed of an eaſier ford, a little higher up, where they paſſed with very little difficulty. Theſe guides impoſe conſiderably upon travellers, and ſcruple not drowning them for the ſake of their ſpoils, if they have any opportunity.

In two hours they came to the banks of another river, called Awle, which takes its riſe in mount Libanus. The channel is deep, and over it a broad ſtone bridge. Here they met ſeveral French merchants, who belonged to the factory at Sidon; and theſe gentlemen conducted them to that city, without the walls of which they pitched their tents, by the ſide of a ciſtern.

THE French conſul, and others belonging to the factory, inhabit a large Kane, near the ſea-ſide, at the front of which there is an old mole, which Facardine cauſed to be filled up, to prevent the unwelcome approach of the Turkiſh galleys; ſo that ſhips are forced to ride under ſhelter of a ſmall ridge of rocks, a mile diſtant from the city to the northward.

SIDON was formerly much more large and ſplendid than it is at preſent; however, it is well inhabited, and it is not unlikely, that many curious pieces of antiquity lie buried under the Turkiſh buildings. The French conſul here is alſo ſtiled conſul of Jeruſalem, and is obliged every Eaſter to viſit that Holy City, in order to ſee that the poor Chriſtians are not quite loſt under the Turkiſh exactions.

OUR travellers had written to this gentleman from Aleppo, with a view to ſecure him as a partner in their expedition; but the delays they met with were ſuch, that he had ſet out the day before their arrival.

MARCH 20th, they ſet out from Sidon, marching faſt, in hopes to be able to overtake him; and paſſed by a ruined village,

ſuppoſed to be the antient Sarepta, famous for having been the habitation of the prophet Eliah. It conſiſts of a few houſes lying ſcattered on the top of a mountain, half a mile from the ſea. Three hours more brought them to the banks of Caſimeer; a broad, deep, meandring river, over which was formerly a good ſtone bridge, the piers of which are ſtill ſtanding; but the arches are broken down, and their places ſupplied with beams and planks very careleſsly laid over. Here, notwithſtanding our travellers paſſed with great precaution, one of their horſes dropped through a hole, and was ſtrong enough to ſwim on ſhore.

In another hour they had ſight of the city of Tyre. But alas! how fallen from that magnificence for which it was once renowned! how different from that Tyre mentioned by the prophet Ezekiel! And here we ſee a divine prophecy fulfilled, which ſaid, that Tyre ſhould be as the top of a rock; yea, as a place for fiſhers to dry their nets on: for the inhabitants are very few and very wretched, ſubſiſting entirely upon fiſhing; there being not one houſe

entire; and the whole city is a pile of glorious ruins. Among theſe we find the eaſt end of a large church ſtill remain, which our author ſuppoſes, not improbably, to have been part of the cathedral built by Paulinus, who was biſhop of this dioceſe. It is remarkable, that in a number of ruined churches, not fewer perhaps than an hundred, which lie between Aleppo and Jeruſalem, the eaſt end was generally left entire; to what cauſe to aſcribe this preſervation, our author does not pretend to affirm; whether it was the ſtrongeſt part of the church, whether a part particularly reverenced by the Infidels, or whether the Chriſtians ranſomed it with money. From the top of a ſtair-caſe, in this laſt-mentioned ruin, they had a fine view of the iſland of Tyre, the city, the iſthmus, and the adjacent ſhore.

The iſland is covered with ſand, and was formerly ſurrounded by a wall, ſtanding upon the utmoſt boundaries of the ſea; in its natural ſtate it ſeems to be of a circular figure, with an area of about forty acres, and the foundation of the wall is ſtill plain to be ſeen.

They went from this place to Roſelayn, celebrated for the ciſterns ſuppoſed to be built by Solomon, as a recompence for the materials ſupplied by king Hiram, towards the building of the temple; but there are many reaſons to diſprove this conjecture, for they are nothing near ſo antient.

One of them, lying a furlong and a half from the ſea, is of an octagonal figure, twenty-two yards in diameter; nine yards above the ground on the ſouth ſide, and ſix on the north. The walls of them are only gravel and ſmall pebbles, but ſo ſtrongly cemented, that one might be apt to miſtake them for a ſingle rock; on the brink you have a wall ſtretching round this ciſtern, eight feet broad, from which you deſcend by one ſtep on the ſouth, and by two on the north, to another walk twenty-one feet broad. This ſtructure, though of ſuch a breadth at top, is nevertheleſs hollow, and the water, which is exceeding good, flows in underneath; of it there is a very large maſs, being well ſupplied from the fountain-head; and though the ſtream that iſſues from it turns four mills within a furlong and a half, the veſſel is

always brim full. Both the contriver and conſtructor of theſe ciſterns remain unknown, though that the work was well done is proved from their remaining, even to this day, in excellent order.

QUITTING Tyre, they croſſed the White Promontory, through which there is a road two yards broad, ſuppoſed to be the work of Alexander the Great. It is cut through a mountain which overhangs the ſea; and the ſteepneſs and depth, added to the raging of the waves at the bottom, render the ſubambient proſpect extremely horrid.

THE road from hence to the plains of Acra, is diſmal and rocky; however, the plains are well watered, pleaſant and fertile, though for want of culture, over-run with weeds, which now in many places reached up to the bellies of the horſes. In four hours more, they reached the city of Acra, lying in the neighbourhood of mount Carmel, being waſhed on the weſt by the Mediterranean, and on the eaſt and north bounded by the plain.

THIS is one of thoſe places out of which the children of Iſrael could never drive the antient inhabitants; it was once call-

ed Accho, but changed its name to Ptolemas, when enlarged by Ptolemy. In the wars between the Chriſtians and the Saracens, this city ſuſtained many a long ſiege, but at length was entirely ſubdued by the latter, who revenged themſelves upon it for all the trouble it coſt them, by laying it in ruins; and from this deſtruction it has never been able to recover.

From the remains of its walls, ditches, ramparts, and fortifications, it appears, that it was once a place of conſiderable ſtrength. Here, among other ruins, are the remains of a large church, which formerly belonged to a nunnery, the abbeſs of which finding that the Turks had entered the city by ſtorm, May 19th, 1291, ſummoned together the whole convent, and laying before them the moſt horrid picture of the inſolencies to which they were doomed; of the affronts they muſt undergo from theſe barbarous ſpoilers; "From them," ſaid ſhe, "there is but one way to eſcape; and "that is, by ſummoning all your reſolu- "tion to follow my example." This they promiſed her faithfully to do, when taking up a knife, ſhe mangled her features in ſo

extraordinary a manner, that it was a ſight horrible to behold. None of her flock were backward in uſing the ſame methods for the protection of their virtue; and thus they transformed themſelves from the moſt perfect beauties into ſpectacles of horror and deteſtation.

THE Turks ſoon after broke into the convent, and being diſappointed of the hopes which they had here of gratifying their luſt, put every one of thoſe brave heroines to the ſword. At Acra, they had the ſatisfaction to find, that Monſieur l'Empereur, the French conſul, had halted for them two days; with him they ſet forward on their journey the next day, convoyed by a band of Turkiſh ſoldiers. They took the middle way over the plain of Eſdraelon, in order to avoid as much as poſſible falling in among the Arabs, who were at prodigious variance among themſelves.

IT is a policy of the Turks, always to ſow diviſions amongſt theſe wild people, by ſetting up ſeveral heads over their tribes, often depoſing the old, and placing new ones in their ſtead, by which art they cre-

ate contrary intereſts and parties amongſt them, preventing them from ever uniting under any one prince; which if they ſhould have the ſenſe to do, (being ſo numerous, and almoſt the ſole inhabitants thereabouts) they might ſhake off the Turkiſh yoke; and make themſelves ſupreme lords of the country.

But however uſeful theſe diſcords may be to the Turks in this reſpect, yet a ſtranger is ſure to ſuffer by them, being made a prey to each party, according as he happens to come in their way.

CHAP. IV.

Of the first making of glass; the dews of mount Hermon, mentioned in the holy scriptures, explained; of Samaria and its revolutions; of our author's conference with a Greek monk; of Jacob's well; the vast difference between the antient and present state of the country accounted for; of the food most natural to the people. Mr. Maundrel arrives at Jerusalem.

HAVING coasted by the side of the bay of Acra for half an hour, they turned off to the southward, and passed a river they supposed to be of Belus, from the sands of which it is said glass was first made; they being excellent for that manufacture. That night they took up their lodging at a Kane called Legune; here they were well accommodated, and had a fine view of the fertile but uncultivated plains of Esdraelon, which only serves the Arabs for pasturage. Here they found their tents

extremely moiſt from the dew which had fallen heavily in the night; and thus were they clearly inſtructed in what the royal Pſalmiſt meant by the dew of Hermon; for mount Hermon and mount Tabor were at ſome diſtance from this encampment, and Nazareth was juſt in ſight.

THEIR ſituation was not extremely agreeable, as on each ſide of them were pitched the tents of two tribes of Arabs, who were enemies to each other. To the Emir of one of them they paid two Caphars in the morning, and he received them very civilly at the door of his tent, only he took a liking to ſome of their upper garments, which they were obliged to part with, without murmuring; but the loſs was not very great, as the heat of the climate began to render them burthenſome.

THE next day they arrived at Samaria, where the ten tribes chiefly reſided, when they revolted from the houſe of David. The name of it was changed from Samaria into Sebaſta, by Herod the Great, in honour of Auguſtus Cæſar; it ſtands upon an oval mount, over-looking a fruitful valley, with a circle of hills at a diſtance,

and little of its antient ſplendour remains. On the north ſide there is a large ſquare piazza, ſurrounded by pillars, ſuppoſed to have been part of a church erected by St. Helen, in honour of St. John Baptiſt, who was here impriſoned and beheaded. The Turks have built a little moſque over the dungeon, in which the blood of that ſaint was ſhed; and they ſhew it to Franks for a trifling piece of money.

An hour and a half from Sebaſta lies Naploſa, the antient name of which, according to the New Teſtament, was Sychem, or Sychar; it ſtands in a narrow valley, having mount Gerizim on the ſouth, and Abel on the north.

From Gerizim God commanded the bleſſings to be pronounced upon the people of Iſrael; the curſes were uttered from mount Abel. On the former of theſe the Samaritans have a ſmall place of worſhip; but of what nature their ſervice is, Mr. Maundrel confeſſes himſelf ignorant; it is indeed his opinion, that the Jews belie them, in ſaying, they adore a calf. He paid a viſit to the chief prieſt of the Samaritans at Napeloſa, and with him he had a

good deal of converſation. One queſtion which he aſked him, among many others, related to the nature of the mandrake, which Leah gave to Rachael for the purchaſe of her huſband's embraces. The Samaritan anſwered, that it was an unwholeſome diſagreeable fruit, as large as an apple, having a broad leaf, and being ripe in harveſt. Our traveller met with ſeveral of theſe plants in his journey to Jeruſalem.

THIS prieſt was a curioſo; he had ſome good books in his poſſeſſion, among which was the firſt volume of the Engliſh Polyglott, and a copy of the Samaritan Pentateuch, which he would be in no ways perſuaded to diſpoſe of. This town is well peopled, but meanly built, conſiſting of two ſtreets, lying parallel to each other, under mount Gerizim, and it is the ſeat of a Turkiſh baſha; here they paid a caphar, and ſet forward for Jacob's Well, mentioned in the 4th chapter of St. John.

OVER it there ſtood a large church, erected by St. Helen; of which, time and the Turks have left nothing ſtanding but ſome parts of the foundation. There is

an old ſtony vault over the well, upon the mouth of which is a broad flat ſtone; it was at this time full of water, which refutes what ſome ſuperſtitious perſons aſſert, viz. That it is dry all the year round, except on the anniverſary of that day on which our Saviour here converſed with a woman of Samaria, and then it overflows.

HERE ends the narrow valley of Sichen, which now opens into a wide field, with a good ſtream of freſh water. This night they quartered at Kane Leban; and the next day purſued their journey, not without ſome fatigue, over a rocky mountainous way, from which they deſcended into a narrow valley, lying between two ſtony hills. Here it is ſaid that Jacob had his viſion. Hence they paſſed through ſome plantations of olives, and in two hours and a half through a craggy fatiguing road, arrived at a village called Beer.

HERE St. Helen erected a church upon the ſpot where the Mother of Chriſt is ſaid to have ſat down penſive, for the loſs of her Son, whom on her return to Jeruſalem, ſhe found ſitting in the temple amongſt the doctors, "both hearing them

"and aſking them queſtions." All the way from Kane Leban to Beer, there is nothing but a rueful proſpect of rocks, precipices, and mountains; ſo that pilgrims are wonderfully deceived in finding the country ſo different from what they had expected, and nothing but bare barren hills, in a tract which, according to Joab, once contained 130,000 fighting men, beſides women and children. See II. Sam. v. 24.

YET theſe rocks and hills certainly were once covered with earth, and made to contribute to the ſuſtenance of the inhabitants, no leſs than if it had been a plain country; nay, perhaps much more ſo, foraſmuch as ſuch a mountainous and uneven ſurface affords a larger ſpace of ground for cultivation, than it would, were it all reduced to a perfect level.

FOR the huſbanding of theſe mountains, their manner was to gather up the ſtones, and place them in ſeveral lines, along the ſides of the hills, in form of a wall; by ſuch borders, they ſupported the mould from tumbling, or being waſhed down, and formed many beds of excellent ſoil, ri-

ſing gradually one above another from the bottom to the top. The plain country was well adapted for corn and paſture land, and the hills, though improper for the ſuſtenance of cattle, being diſpoſed into ſuch beds as we have already deſcribed, ſerved well for the bearing of corn, melons, gourds, cucumbers, and all kinds of garden-ſtuff; in which conſiſt the principal food of theſe countries for ſeveral months in the year.

THE moſt rocky part of all, which could not be adjuſted in that manner for the production of corn, might yet ſerve for the plantation of vines and olive trees: and that great plain adjoining to the Dead Sea, which by reaſon of its ſaltneſs, might be thought unſerviceable both for cattle, corn, olives, and vines, had yet its proper uſefulneſs for the nouriſhment of bees; our author being convinced from the ſmell, that here is great plenty of wax and honey.

THE principal food of the eaſtern people being milk, corn, wine, oil, or honey; this country, as abounding with all theſe things, might certainly be able to maintain a vaſt number of inhabitants, and much

more ſo, when it is remembered that the conſtitution of their bodies, and the nature of the climate, inclines them to be more abſtemious than in colder regions.

From Beer Mr. Maundrel and his company proceeded through a wild ſtony country, varied with many ruined villages; and in little more than two hours had a proſpect of Jeruſalem from the top of a hill, with the mountains of Gilead on the left hand, and the plain of Jericho, with Rama, anciently called the Gibeah of Saul, on the right. In an hour more, they came up with the walls of the holy city, and entered it by the Bethelem gate, having been detained about half an hour for leave, from the governor, without which no Frank is admitted into the city; for unleſs they come with ſome public miniſter, they are obliged to diſmount, and leave their horſes and arms at the gate; a ceremony from which our travellers were excuſed, on account of their being in the French conſul's train. At this gentleman's houſe they lay every night during their continuance in Jeruſalem, and boarded with the guardian and friars of the Latin convent, who, to

do them juſtice, were extremely hoſpitable, and kept them to ſupper the firſt night of their arrival here, it being Maundy-Thurſday.

CHAP. V.

Of the church of the Holy Sepulchre; and the manner in which they commemorate the Paſſion therein.

THE following day being Good-Friday, and the 26th of March, N. S. they accompanied the conſul to the church of the Holy Sepulchre; the doors of which they found guarded by ſeveral janizaries, who obliged the lay Chriſtians to pay fourteen dollars a man; and the eccleſiaſtics ſeven. This caphar once laid down, you are at liberty to go in and out of the church, at common hours, during the whole feſtival; but it muſt be paid again, if you would chuſe to enter at extraordinary times.

THE doors are locked up on the even-

ing of Good-Friday, and opened no more until Eaſter-day, the pilgrims being all firſt admitted. Our travellers ſpent all this time here, and had an opportunity of ſurveying every holy place with great freedom, and viewing all the Latin ceremonies. This church is founded upon mount Calvary, which is an eminence upon the greater mount, Moriah; it was not firſt incloſed within the city walls, being reckoned infamous, as appropriated to the execution of malefactors. But ever ſince that the Saviour of Mankind here ſuffered for the ſins of his creatures, it has been extremely reverenced; and ſo much reſorted to, that it now ſtands in the midſt of the city, while to make room for it mount Sion is ſhut out of the walls.

In order to the fitting this hill for the foundation of a church, thoſe who deſigned it were obliged to reduce it to a plain area; which they did by cutting down ſeveral parts of the rock, and elevating others. But in this work care was taken, that none of thoſe parts of the hill, which were reckoned to be more immediately concerned in our Lord's paſſion, ſhould be

altered or diminiſhed. Thus that very part of Calvary, where it is ſaid Chriſt was faſtened to his croſs, is left entire, being about ten or twelve yards ſquare, and ſtanding at this day ſo high above the common floor of the church, that you have twenty-one ſteps or ſtairs to go up to it.

THE holy ſepulchre itſelf, which was firſt a cave hewn into the rock under-ground, having had the rock cut away from it all round, is now as it were a grotto above-ground. The church is ſcarcely leſs than one hundred paces long, and not more than ſixty wide: yet it is ſo contrived, that it is ſuppoſed to contain under its roof twelve or thirteen ſanctuaries, or places reputed to have ſome particular actions done in them relating to the death and reſurrection of Chriſt. Such as, firſt, the place where he was derided by the ſoldiers.

SECONDLY, where the ſoldiers divided his garments.

THIRDLY, where he was ſhut up whilſt things were made ready for his crucifixion.

FOURTHLY, where he was nailed to the croſs.

FIFTHLY, where the croſs was erected.

SIXTHLY, where the ſoldier ſtood, that pierced his ſide.

SEVENTHLY, where his body was anointed in order to his burial.

EIGHTHLY, where his body was depoſited in the ſepulchre.

NINTHLY, where the angels appeared to the women after his reſurrection.

TENTHLY, where Chriſt himſelf appeared to Mary Magdalen, &c.

THE places where theſe and many other things relating to our bleſſed Lord are ſaid to have been done, are all ſuppoſed to be contained within the narrow precincts of this church; and are all diſtinguiſhed and adorned with ſo many ſeveral altars.

IN the galleries round the church, and alſo in little buildings annexed to it, on the outſide, are certain apartments for the reception of friars and pilgrims; and in theſe places, almoſt every Chriſtian nation antiently maintained a ſmall ſociety of monks; each ſociety having its proper quarter aſſigned to it, by the appointment of the Turks; but they have all, except four, forſaken the place, not being able to ſuſtain

the ſevere extortions which their Turkiſh landlords impoſe upon them. The Latins, Greeks, Armenians, and Cophtites, keep their footing ſtill. Of thoſe the Caphtites have now only one poor repreſentative of their nation left; and the Armenians are run ſo much in debt, that it is ſuppoſed they are haſtening apace to follow the examples of their brethren.

BESIDES their ſeveral apartments, each fraternity has its particular altars and ſanctuary, where the members of it have a right to perform their own peculiar divine ſervice, and to exclude other nations. But the great prize contended for by the ſeveral ſects is, the command and appropriation of the holy ſepulchre; a privilege conteſted with ſo much animoſity, eſpecially between the Greeks and Latins, that in diſputing which party ſhould go into it, to celebrate maſs, they ſometimes proceed to blows, even at the very door of it; and the father-guardian ſhewed our author a great ſcar upon his arm, which he told him was the mark of a wound given him by a ſturdy Greek prieſt, in one of theſe unchriſtian ſkirmiſhes.

For putting an end to theſe infamous quarrels, the French king addreſſed a letter to the grand vizir, about twelve years ſince, requeſting him to order the holy ſepulchre to be put into the hands of the Latins, according to the tenor of the capitulation made in the year 1673; yet this affair was not accompliſhed till the year 1690. They alone have now the privilege to ſay maſs in it; and though it be permitted to Chriſtians of all nations to go into it for their private devotions, yet none are allowed to ſolemnize any public office of religion there but the Latins.

The daily employment of the recluſes who reſide here, is to trim the lamps, and to make devotional viſits and proceſſions to the ſeveral ſanctuaries in the church. Thus they ſpend their time, many of them for four or ſix years together. Nay, ſo far are ſome tranſported by the pleaſing contemplations they here entertain themſelves with, that they will never come out to their dying day, burying themſelves (as it were) alive in our Lord's grave.

The Latins, of whom there are always about ten or twelve reſiding at the church,

with a preſident over them, make every day a ſolemn proceſſion with tapers, crucifixes, &c. to the ſeveral ſanctuaries, ſinging at every one of them a Latin hymn, the ſubject of which relates to each place. As they are much more polite, and alſo more exact in their functions than any of the reſt, let it ſuffice, if we confine our obſervations to their ceremonies, particularly on Good-Friday, called by them, *Nox tenebroſa*.

At the ſetting in of the evening, all the friars and pilgrims aſſembled together in the chapel of the Apparition, a ſmall oratory on the north ſide of the holy grave, in order to go in proceſſion round the church; but before they ſet out, one of the friars preached a ſermon in Italian in the chapel. He began his diſcourſe thus: *In queſta notte tenebroſa*, &c. at which words all the candles were inſtantly put out, to yield a more lively image of the occaſion; and ſo they were held by the preacher, for near half an hour, very much in the dark.

Sermon being ended, every perſon preſent had a large lighted taper put into his hand, as if it were to make amends for the

former darkneſs; and the crucifixes, and other utenſils, were diſpoſed in order for beginning the proceſſion. Amongſt the other crucifixes, there was one of a very large ſize, which bore upon it the image of our Lord, as big as the life. The image was faſtened thereto with great nails; it was crowned with thorns, beſmeared with blood, &c. and was, upon the whole, ſo excellent a piece of workmanſhip, that to view it without emotion was impoſſible. This was carried at the head of the proceſſion, and the company followed after it to all the ſanctuaries in the church, ſinging a proper hymn at each.

THE firſt place they viſited, was the Pillar of Flagellation, a large piece of which is kept in a cell, juſt at the door of the chapel of the Apparition. There having ſung a hymn, another friar entertained the company with a ſermon in Spaniſh, touching the ſcourging of our Lord.

FROM hence they proceeded to the priſon of Chriſt, where they alſo ſung a hymn; and a third friar preached in French.

FROM the priſon they went to the altar

of the diviſion of Chriſt's garments; where they only ſung a hymn.

HAVING done here, they advanced to the chapel of the Deriſion; at which, after their hymn, they had a fourth ſermon in French.

FROM this place they went up to Calvary, leaving their ſhoes at the bottom of the ſtairs. Here are two altars to be viſited; one where our Lord is ſuppoſed to have been nailed to the croſs; another where the croſs was erected. At the former of theſe, they laid down the great crucifix upon the floor, and performed ſome ceremonies reſembling the proceſs of the crucifixion; after which, and a hymn, one of the friars preached another ſermon in Spaniſh, upon the crucifixion.

THEY next removed to the adjoining altar, where the croſs is ſuppoſed to have been erected. Here is a hole in the rock, ſaid to be the ſame in which the foot of the croſs ſtood. Here they ſet up the crucified image, then ſung their hymn, and afterwards, the father-guardian, ſitting in a chair before it, preached a ſermon upon the paſſion, in Italian. At about one yard

and a half diſtance from the hole, in which the foot of the croſs was fixed, is ſeen that memorable cleft in the rock, ſaid to have been made by the earthquake which happened at the ſuffering of the God of Nature, when the rocks rent, and the very graves were opened, Mat. xxvii. 51. This cleft now appears to be about a ſpan wide at its upper part, and at the depth of two ſpans it cloſes: but it opens again lower down, and runs to an unknown depth in the earth. There is only a tradition to prove, that this rent was made by the earthquake that happened at our Lord's paſſion; but that it is a natural breach, and not counterfeited by any art, the ſenſe and reaſon of any one that ſees it may convince him, for the ſides of it fit like two tallies.

The ceremony of the paſſion being over, and the guardian's ſermon ended, two friars, the one perſonating Joſeph of Arimathea, the other Nicodemus, approached the croſs, and with a ſolemn air of concern, drew out the nails, and took down the feigned body from the croſs. It was ſo well contrived, that its limbs were ſoft and fle-

xible, as if they had been real fleſh: and nothing could be more ſurpriſing than to ſee the two pretended mourners bend down the arms, which were before extended, and diſpoſe them upon the trunk in ſuch a manner as is uſual in corpſes.

THE body was now received in a fair large winding-ſheet, and carried down from Calvary, the whole company attending as before, to the ſtone of unction. This is taken for the very place where the precious body of our Lord was anointed and prepared for the burial. John xix. 39. Here they laid it down, and caſting over it ſeveral ſweet powders and ſpices, wrapt it up in the winding-ſheet: whilſt this was doing, they ſung a proper hymn; and afterwards one of the friars preached a funeral ſermon in Arabic. Theſe obſequies being finiſhed, they laid the ſuppoſed corpſe in the ſepulchre, ſhutting up the door till Eaſter morning. Now after ſo many ſermons, and ſo long, not to ſay tedious a ceremony, it may well be imagined, that the wearineſs of the congregation, as well as the hour of night, made it needful to go to reſt.

THE next morning many of the pilgrims

had their arms marked with the uſual enſigns of Jeruſalem. The artiſts who undertake the operation, do it in this manner: They have ſtamps in wood, of any figure that you deſire, which they firſt print off upon the arm with powder of charcoal; then taking two very fine needles tied cloſe together, and dipping them often like a pen, in a certain ink, ſaid to be compounded of gunpowder and ox-gall, they make with them ſmall punctures all along the lines of the figure which they would have printed, and then waſhing the part in wine, conclude the work. Theſe punctures they make with great quickneſs and dexterity; and with ſcarcely any ſmart, ſeldom piercing ſo deep as to draw blood.

In the afternoon of this day, the congregation was aſſembled in the area, before the holy grave, where the friars ſpent ſome hours in ſinging over the Lamentations of Jeremiah; which function, with the uſual proceſſion to the holy places, was all the ceremony of this day.

CHAP. VI.

Their manner of celebrating Eaſter; a view of ſome of the moſt remarkable places about Jeruſalem; a curious account of the Dead Sea; of ſome ſacred relicks in and about Bethlehem; of certain air fatal to the Turks; of the wilderneſs and cave of St. John the Baptiſt.

EASTER Sunday in the morning, the ſepulchre was again ſet open very early; the clouds of the former morning were cleared up; and the friars put on a face of joy and ſerenity, as if it had been the real time of our Lord's reſurrection. Nor doubtleſs was this joy feigned, whatever their mourning might be, this being the day in which their lenten diſcipline expired, and they were allowed once more to make a good meal.

THE maſs was celebrated this morning juſt before the holy ſepulchre, being the moſt eminent place in the church. Here

a throne was erected for the father-guardian, who was dreſſed like a biſhop; and in the ſight of the Turks he gave the hoſt to all that were diſpoſed to receive it, not refuſing children of ſeven or eight years old.

THIS office being ended, they left the ſepulchre, and every man went about his buſineſs.

AFTER dinner, our company paid a viſit to the moſt remarkable places about the city; going firſt to a large grotto, where there is a college of Derviſes, and the place is held in great veneration by Turks, Jews, and Chriſtians, as having been formerly the reſidence of the prophet Jeremiah, who here wrote his Lamentations, and whoſe bed they ſhew you on the ſhelve of a rock, about eight feet from the ground.

FROM hence they went to the ſepulchres of kings, which were certainly receptacles for the dead formed at vaſt expence, and with infinite labour; but why called the ſepulchres of kings, is a queſtion hard to be reſolved; no kings either of Iſrael, or Judah, being mentioned in ſcripture as interred here, unleſs that this was the burial-place of Hezekiah; and that theſe were

the ſepulchres of the ſons of David, mentioned in II. Chronicles.

You approach then at the eaſt ſide, thro' an entrance cut out of the natural rock, which admits you into an open court of about forty paces ſquare, cut down into the rock, with which it is encompaſſed inſtead of walls. On the ſouth ſide of the court is a portico, nine paces long, and four broad, hewn likewiſe out of the natural rock; this has a kind of architrave running along it; in front adorned with ſculpture of fruits and flowers, ſtill diſcernable, though defaced through age. At the end of the portico on the left hand, you deſcend to the paſſage into the ſepulchres.

The door is now ſo obſtructed with ſtones and rubbiſh, that it is ſomething difficult to creep through it; but within there is a room about ſeven or eight yards ſquare, cut out of the natural rock; its ſides and cieling are ſo exactly ſquare, and its angles ſo juſt, that no architect with levels and plumets could build a room more regular; and the whole is ſo firm and entire, that it may be called a chamber hewn out of a block of marble.

From this room you paſs into ſix more; one within another, all of the ſame fabric with the firſt. Of theſe the two innermoſt are deeper than the reſt, having a ſecond deſcent of about ſix or ſeven ſteps in them. In every one of theſe rooms, except the firſt, were coffins of ſtone, placed in niches, in the ſides of the chambers. They had been at firſt covered with handſome lids, and carved with foliage; but moſt of them have been broken in pieces by ſacrilegious hands. The ſides and cieling of the room were always dropping with the moiſt damps condenſing upon them; to receive the water thus diſtilled, there was in each room a channel which ſerved to drain it off.

There is only one door remaining to any of thoſe ſubterranean paſſages; it is formed like wainſcot, and cut out of one entire ſtone; the hinges of it are of the ſame matter.

In returning from theſe ſepulchres to the city, there is a filthy dungeon pointed out, in which it is ſaid the prophet Jeremiah was kept priſoner by Zedekiah. See Jer. xxxviii.

THE following day the pilgrims, to the number of two thouſand, were convoyed to Jordan by the moſelem or governor of the city, and ſeveral bands of ſoldiers. For this protection every layman pays twelve franks, and every eccleſiaſtic ſix: without it, the inſolence of the Arabs would render it a dangerous journey.

CROSSING the valley of Jehoſaphat and part of mount Olivet, they arrived in half an hour at Bethany, the firſt houſe in which village is ſuppoſed to have belonged to Lazarus; and near it is ſhewn the ſepulchre, wherein he is ſaid to have been raiſed from the dead. You deſcend to it by twenty-five ſteps, and arrive firſt in a ſmall ſquare room, through which you paſs into one ſomething leſs; and here the body is ſaid to have lain. You pay a ſmall caphar for being admitted into it; and the Turks, who uſe it for an oratory, hold the place in great veneration.

THE apoſtles' fountain is at the bottom of a ſteep hill, and takes its name from being the place where the apoſtles uſed to refreſh themſelves in their travels between Jeruſalem and Jericho. Nor is this any

way improbable; as it ſtands by the road ſide, and bubbles out invitation to the thirſty paſſenger.

The mountain, in the deſart, whereon our Saviour is ſaid to have been tempted, lies through an intricate road, variegated with hills and dales, and though at preſent extremely barren, wears the aſpect of a place that had formerly been cultivated. The whole proſpect is moſt diſmal, preſenting nothing but rocky mountains and frightful chaſms, that appear to have been the effect of ſome horrid convulſion of nature.

In a deep valley to the left, there are ſome ruined cottages, which were formerly the habitation of devout hermits, who certainly could never have fixed upon a ſpot more rueful and melancholy than this. From the top of the mount there is a beautiful proſpect of the mountains of Arabia, the Dead Sea, and the plains of Jericho. On the top of Quarantania, which is the name of the hill where our Saviour and the devil conferred, there is a ſmall chappel; the mountain is very high and of dangerous aſcent, though the latter our tra-

vellers were not permitted to experience, being prevented by ſome Arabs, who demanded two hundred dollars for permitting them to paſs up; but they neither choſe the expence, nor yet to diſpute with theſe deſperadoes, who were armed with muſquets.

FROM hence, turning into the plain of Jericho, they arrived, after a mile's riding, at the fountains of Eliſha, which that prophet purged of its brackiſhneſs, at the requeſt of its neighbouring inhabitants. Theſe waters falling into a large baſon, thence diffuſe themſelves over the neighbouring fields, which they endue with great fertility. Juſt by the fountain there grows an umbrageous tree, under the ſhade of which our travellers dined, together with thirty or forty friars, who had accompanied them in this journey.

FROM hence, at the diſtance of one third of an hour, lies the village of Jericho, which is at preſent a wretched habitation of Arabs.

THE next day, being March the 30th, they proceeded towards Jordan, through a plain that produced nothing but ſam-

phire and other marine plants. Here, in many places where there had been water, which is now dried up, there remaineth ſtrong incruſtations of ſalt, with which mineral the ſoil ſeemed to be every where impregnated.

THERE are the ruins of an old church, and of a convent dedicated to Saint John Baptiſt, lying about a furlong from the river, and near the place where that holy precurſor baptiſed the Son of God.

ON the banks of this river they were intimidated by the appearance of ſome hoſtile Arabs, who fired upon them from the oppoſite ſhore; but were at too great a diſtance to do any miſchief. The intimidation wherewith this ſavage parade filled the friars, who were the moſt wretched of the whole company, is very ſurprizing. The deſperadoes ſoon after chooſing to retire, many of the pilgrims ſtripped and waſhed themſelves, but dared not to venture to ſwim acroſs the ſtream; firſt on account of its rapidity, and next for fear of the Arabs.

THE pilgrims having finiſhed their devotion, or ſatisfied their curioſity, were

ranged in the middle of the plain, that the governor, being thereby the better able to reckon them, might loſe none of his caphars. Some of them here expreſſing a deſire of taking a view of the Dead Sea, he not only readily granted their requeſt, but alſo ſent a guard to protect them.

WITHIN half an hour of this ſea, there are ſeveral pits like lime-kilns; and it was here perhaps, where the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah were overthrown, as may be found in Gen. xiv. In a coppice, not far from the ſea, the guide, who was an Arab, pointed out to them a fountain, the waters of which were brackiſh, though he aſſerted them to be freſh. To the eaſt and weſt the Dead Sea is bounded by mountains of a ſtupendous height; on the northward lies the Plain of Jericho; to the ſouth it ſtretches beyond ken. The length of it is ſaid to be twenty-four leagues, and the breadth ſix or ſeven. The hills bordering upon the Dead Sea, which may rather be called a Lake, abound with a ſulphureous kind of ſtone, that loſes of its weight, but not of its bulk in the fire, where it yields an intolerable ſtench; it poliſhes as

well as black marble, and there are ſeveral pieces of it kept in the convent of St. John the Baptiſt, about two feet ſquare, carved in baſſo relievo.

Our author, from his own knowledge, aſſures us, that the aſſertion of birds dropping down dead in flying over the ſtream, is intirely falſe; and by ſeveral oyſter, and other ſhells which he found upon the ſide of the ſhore, he has reaſon to think that it nouriſhes ſome fiſh. There is a bitumen gathered off the ſurface of theſe waters near the mountains, which cannot be eaſily diſtinguiſhed from pitch. The waters are ſalt, limpid, extremely bitter and nauſeous, being of ſuch ſtrength, that they bear up a body with ſurprizing force.

Mr. Maundrel ſearched, in vain, for the remains of thoſe cities, which were hereabouts deſtroyed by fire from heaven; tho' at ſome times when the waters are low, a few relicks of them may be plainly diſcerned, as atteſted by the father guardian and procurator of Jeruſalem. Here they could not find any thing reſembling a tree; from whence it may be juſtly inferred, that

the ſtory of the apples of Sodom is entirely a fiction.

THERE is a promontory to the weſtward whereon the metamorphoſed wife of Lot is ſaid to be ſtill evident; but our author neither credits the report, nor would his time permit him to examine into the truth of it.

THEY paſſed by an old Greek church, in their return from the Dead Sea, great part of which was ſtill ſtanding, and exhibited divers pieces of painting, particularly one repreſenting the laſt Supper, placed over the altar. From the ſcent hereabouts, it is very probable, that honey and wax are plenty; and the bees labour every where round with as much aſſiduity as if they fed upon the delightful vegetables of Sicily.

IN this place there grows a thorn buſh, with a ſmall leaf, and a fruit reſembling an unripe walnut; it is called Zachone; the Arabs pound it in a mortar, and then throwing it in ſcalding water, ſkim off an oil, which is of vaſt power taken inwardly againſt bruiſes; nor does the balm of Gilead cure green wounds better.

THE next morning, at half an hour after two, our company decamped, and purſued their march to the walls of Jeruſalem, near which, when they approached, they turned off for Bethlehem, paſſing through the vale of Jehoſaphat. There are many remarkable things in the road, which is of two hours length, as,

FIRST, the houſe of the venerable prieſt Simeon, who taking our bleſſed Saviour in his arms in the temple, ſung, *Nunc Dimittis*.

SECONDLY, the famous turpentine tree, under which the holy Virgin is ſaid to have ſat, when ſhe travelled towards Jeruſalem, with the child Jeſus in her arms, being about to preſent him to the temple.

THIRDLY, here is a convent dedicated to Elias: it is in the hands of the Greek monks, who ſhew a hard ſtone, which they ſay ſerved him for a bed. On it there is a ſort of impreſſion of a human body.

FOURTHLY, here is Rachel's tomb, appearing to be a piece of modern ſtructure; and near it are picked up little round ſtones, reſembling peaſe, which it is ſaid they were originally, but curſed, becauſe

the peaſant to whom they belonged denied to relieve the holy Virgin when in neceſſity.

At Bethlehem is ſtill to be ſeen the manger in which our Saviour was laid, and the place where he was born.

Secondly, the chapel of Saint Joſeph, huſband to the virgin Mary; alſo the chapels of the Innocents; of Saint Paul; of Euſebius; and of St. Jerom. An hour and a quarter to the ſouth of Bethlehem, lie thoſe beautiful gardens, and celebrated pools, which are thought to have been the contrivance of king Solomon; and which he enumerated amongſt his other pieces of magnificence, as may be ſeen in the book of Eccleſiaſtes.

In returning from theſe remains of the wiſe man's grandeur, to Bethlehem, they paſſed by an old aqueduct, which was certainly the work of that prince; and notwithſtanding its prodigious ſtrength, the Turks have made a ſhift to deſtroy it almoſt intirely. In this place are to be ſeen the chapel of the holy manger, and a grotto dug out of a chalky rock, in which the holy Virgin and her Child are ſaid to have

ſecreted themſelves from the fury of Herod, for ſome time before their departure into Egypt. The women hereabouts take the earth of this grotto medicinally, for increaſe of their milk, imagining that the whiteneſs of it proceeds from ſome drops which fell from the breaſt of the Virgin, while ſhe was ſuckling the Infant, and not from any natural cauſe.

When we conſider how ſtrongly prejudice acts upon weak minds, we ſhall not be ſurprized, if told, that this preſcription often carries with it efficacy.

Friday, April the 2d, our travellers took their leaves of Bethlehem, and of the reverend guardian, to whom they each preſented two chequins for his civility, intending to return to Jeruſalem, after viſiting the wilderneſs, and the convent of Saint John Baptiſt. In this ſtage they firſt croſſed part of the famous valley, in which the angel in one night is ſaid to have deſtroyed beſt part of the army of Sennacherib. In an hour more they arrived at a village in which it is ſaid no Turk can ſurvive above two years; and by virtue of this report, the Chriſtians make a ſhift to

keep the place intirely to themſelves; but whether the report be true or falſe, no Turk chooſes to try the experiment.

FARTHER on is a fountain, in which they aſſert, though falſly, that Philip baptized the eunuch; for the paſſage being ſteep, broken and rocky, it is difficult even for a ſingle horſeman to paſs, much more for a chariot. Yet we are not to form a judgment of what the road was, from its preſent appearance, for it is certain, that there was another not far from the fountain, which was both ſpacious and convenient; but almoſt the traces of it are deſtroyed, through the negligence of the infidels.

A LITTLE beyond this fountain, lies a village called Saint Philip, where aſcending a ſteep hill, you arrive at the wilderneſs of Saint John, which, though rocky and mountainous, is well cultivated, and produces plenty of corn, grapes, and olives. After an hour's travelling in this wilderneſs, they arrived at the cave and fountain in which it is ſaid Saint John the Baptiſt exerciſed thoſe auſterities related of him in Mat. iii. 4.

NEAR the cave are ſome old locuſt trees, the fruit of which the pilgrims gather with great devotion, being perſuaded by the friars, that the Baptiſt ſubſiſted while in the wilderneſs upon the very ſame ſort.

A LEAGUE to the eaſtward lies the convent of Saint John, towards which they directed their courſe, paſſing through the valley of Eliah, where David ſlew the champion of the Philiſtines; and having a diſtant proſpect of the burying-place of the Maccabees. Near the convent of Saint John, there formerly ſtood another convent, which was ſacred to Saint Elizabeth, having been once her habitation. It now lies in a heap of ruins, and has nothing in it remarkable, but a grotto, wherein Mary ſaluted Elizabeth with the divine Magnificat. The convent of Saint John, which is now inhabited, ſtands at about three furlongs diſtant from the houſe of Elizabeth; and is ſuppoſed to be built at the place Saint John was born.

IF you chance to aſk, how it came to paſs that Elizabeth lived in one houſe, when ſhe was big with the Baptiſt, and in another when ſhe brought him forth?

The anſwer you are like to receive, is, that the former was her country, the other her city-habitation.

THE convent of Saint John has been rebuilt from the ground within theſe four years. It is a large uniform ſquare; but that which is moſt eminently beautiful in it, is its church, which conſiſts of three iſles, with a handſome cupola in the middle, and under it a fine marble pavement. At the upper end of the north iſle, you aſcend by ſeven marble ſteps to a ſplendid altar, erected over the place where they ſay the Baptiſt was born. Artificers are ſtill employed in embelliſhing this convent; and yet it has been ſo expenſive a work already, that the friars themſelves give out, there is not a ſtone laid in it, but what has coſt them a dollar.

IN the way between Saint John's and Jeruſalem, there is a neat convent dedicated to the Holy Croſs; it is delightfully ſituated upon the ſame ſpot where grew the tree which furniſhed the means of our Saviour's crucifixion. The hole wherein the ſtump of this accurſed tree once ſtood,

is ſhewn under a high altar; and greatly reverenced by pilgrims.

THE evening of this day our travellers returned to Jeruſalem, having been five days abſent, and were invited to the convent to have their feet waſhed amongſt all the other pilgrims. This ceremony was performed by the father guardian himſelf, with great ſolemnity; after which, each of the friars kiſſed their feet, in a very reſpectful manner; a ceremony not unuſeful, if we conſider it as meant either to manifeſt humility, or ſtir up the ſpirit of charity.

CHAP. VII.

Of the ceremony of the Holy Fire; and a deſcription of many remarkable places about Jeruſalem; alſo of Gethſemane.

APRIL the third, our travellers were preſent at the office of the Holy Fire. This is a ceremony kept up by the Greeks and Armenians, upon a perſuaſion, that every Eaſter-eve a miraculous flame deſcends from heaven, into the holy ſepulchre, where it kindles all the lamps and candles, as the ſacrifice was burnt through the prayers of Elijah. 1 Kings xviii.

THE church of the holy ſepulchre was crouded with a numerous and diſtracted mob, making a hideous noiſe, better becoming Bacchanals than Chriſtians, and crying out, Huia; which ſignifies, this is he, alluding to the coming of Chriſt. They then began to act the moſt antic tricks, and to throw themſelves into a thouſand ridiculous poſtures. Sometimes they dragged one another along the floor, all round the

ſepulchre. In this tumultuous frantic humour, they continued from twelve till four o' clock; the reaſon of which delay was, becauſe of a ſuit then in debate, before the Cadi, betwixt the Greeks and Armenians; the former endeavouring to exclude the latter from having any ſhare in this ceremony; nor did their diſpute coſt them leſs than five thouſand dollars.

THE Cadi at laſt ordered, that they ſhould enter the holy ſepulchre together, as had been uſual at former times. Wherefore, at four o' clock the Greeks began the proceſſion, and were followed by the Armenians, both parties being magnificently habited, and bearing ſtandards, ſtreamers, crucifixes, &c. in which order they compaſſed the holy ſepulchre thrice. Towards the end of this proceſſion, a pigeon came fluttering into the cupola, over the ſepulchre; at ſight of which there was a great ſhout. This bird was ſaid by the Latins to be purpoſely let fly by the Greeks, to deceive the people into an opinion, that it was the Holy Ghoſt.

THE proceſſion being over, the ſuffragan of the Greek Patriarch, he being him-

ſelf at Conſtantinople, and the principal Armenian biſhop, approached the door of the ſepulchre, and breaking the ſtring which was faſtened and ſealed, entered in, ſhutting the door after them, all the candles and lamps within having been before extinguiſhed in the preſence of the Turks. They had not been above a minute in the holy ſepulchre, when the glimmering of the holy fire was ſeen through ſome chinks of the door; and out came the two dignified prieſts, with blazing torches in their hands, which they held up at the door of the ſepulchre, while the people thronged about with inexpreſſible ardour, every one ſtriving to obtain a part of the firſt and pureſt flame: the Turks in the mean time with huge clubs laid them on without mercy, but to no purpoſe; they were not to be kept back, the exceſs of their tranſport made them inſenſible of pain. Thoſe that got the fire, applied it immediately to their beards, faces, and boſoms, pretending that it would not burn like an earthly flame; yet it was plain, that few of them could endure the experiment. As all preſſed to light their tapers, you may

be ſure it was not long before the church was well illuminated; and thus the ceremony ended.

It muſt be owned, that the prieſts within the ſepulchre performed their part with great dexterity; but the behaviour of the rabble without very much diſcredited the performance.

The Latins take a great deal of pains to expoſe this ceremony as a ſhameful impoſture, and a ſcandal to the Chriſtian religion, perhaps out of envy that others ſhould be maſter of ſo gainful a buſineſs. But the Greeks and Armenians pin their faith upon it, and make their pilgrimage chiefly upon this motive; and it is the deplorable unhappineſs of their prieſts, that having acted the cheat ſo long, they are forced now to ſtand to it, for fear of endangering the faith of their people.

Going out of the church, they ſaw a number of people melting their wax tapers upon pieces of linen, which were intended for ſhrouds; and theſe poor creatures imagine, that ſuch ſort of an embalment will protect them when dead, from the flames of hell.

THE 4th of April, being Eaſter Sunday, O. S. our company obſerved it with due reverence, and went not abroad. On the 5th, they continued their curious inveſtigations, and paid a viſit to the priſon, whence the angel delivered Saint Peter; the place being ſtill appropriated to the impriſonment of criminals. About the ſpace of a furlong from thence, they came to an old church, built by Helena, in the place where ſtood the houſe of Zebedee. This is in the hands of the Greeks, who tell you that Zebedee being a fiſherman, was wont to bring fiſh from Joppa hither, and to vend it at this place.

NOT far from hence, they came to the place where they ſay ſtood antiently the iron gate, which opened to Saint Peter of its own accord. A few ſteps farther is a ſmall church, built over the houſe of Mark, to which the apoſtle directed his courſe after his miraculous goal delivery. The Syrians, who have this place in their cuſtody, pretend to ſhow you the very window at which Rhoda looked out, while Peter knocked at the door. In the church they ſhow a Syriac manuſcript of the New Teſ-

tament in folio, pretended to be 852 years old; and a little ſtone font uſed by the apoſtles themſelves in baptizing.

About 150 paces farther, in the ſame ſtreet, is the houſe of St. Thomas, formerly a church, but now a moſque. Not many paces farther, is another ſtreet, croſſing the former, which leads you on the right hand to the place where they ſay our Lord appeared after his reſurrection to the three Maries, Mat. xxviii. 9. The friars make out three Maries, though St. Matthew mentions only two. The ſame ſtreet carries you, on the left hand, to the Armenian convent: the Armenians have here a very large and delightful ſpot of ground; their convent and gardens taking up all that part of Mount Sion which is within the walls of the city; their church is built over the place where they ſay St. James, the brother of John, was beheaded. Acts xii. 2.

In a ſmall chapel on the north ſide of the church, is ſhewn the very place of his decollation; in this church are two altars, ſet out with extraordinary ſplendour, being decked with rich mitres, embroidered copes, croſſes, both ſilver and gold crowns, chalices, and other church-utenſils, with-

out number. In the middle of the church is a pulpit made of tortoiſeſhell and mother of pearl, with a canopy or cupola over it, of the ſame fabrick. The tortoiſeſhell and mother of pearl are nice and judiciouſly intermingled. In a kind of anti-chapel to this church, there are laid upon one ſide of an altar, three large rough ſtones, eſteemed very precious; one of them being the ſtone upon which Moſes caſt the two tables when he broke them in indignation at the idolatry of the Iſraelites; the other two being brought, one from the place of our Lord's baptiſm, the other from that of his transfiguration.

LEAVING this convent, they went a little farther to another ſmall church, which was likewiſe in the hands of the Armenians; this is ſuppoſed to be founded in the place where the houſe of Annanias ſtood. Within the church, not far from the door, is ſhewn a hole in the wall, denoting a place where one of the officers of the high prieſt ſmote our bleſſed Saviour. John xviii. 22. The officer by whoſe impious hands that buffet was given, the friars will have to be the ſame Malchus whoſe ear

our Lord had healed in the court before. Near this chapel is an olive tree, to which, it is reported, Chriſt was chained for ſome time, by order of Annanias, to ſecure him from eſcaping.

THEY were now conducted out of Sion Gate, which is near adjoining to that called the houſe of Caiaphas, where is another ſmall chapel, belonging alſo to the Armenians; here under the altar, they tell us, is depoſited the very ſtone which ſecured the door of our Saviour's ſepulchre. Matt. xxvii. 60. It was a long time kept in the church of the ſepulchre, but the Armenians, not many years ſince, ſtole it thence by ſtratagem, and conveyed it to this place. The ſtone is two yards and a quarter long, and one yard broad; it is plaiſtered all over, except in five or ſix places, where it is bare, through the kiſſes of the pilgrims. Here is likewiſe ſhewn a cell, ſaid to have been our Lord's priſon, till the morning when he was carried from thence before Pilate, and alſo the place where Peter was frighted into a denial of his maſter. A little farther without the gate, is the church where they ſay Chriſt inſtituted his Laſt Supper. It is now a

moſque, and the inſide not to be ſeen by Chriſtians.

NEAR this is a well, which is ſaid to mark out the place at which the apoſtles divided from each other, in order to go every man to his ſeveral charge; and cloſe by the well are the ruins of a houſe in which the bleſſed Virgin is ſuppoſed to have breathed her laſt. Going eaſtward a little down the hill, they were ſhewn the place where a Jew arreſted the corps of the bleſſed Virgin as ſhe was carried to her interment, for which impious preſumption he had the hand withered wherewith he had ſeized the bier. In the middle of the hill they ſhew you the grot in which Peter wept for his inconſtancy.

THEY extended their circuit no farther at this time, but entered the city again at Sion Gate, where turning down to the right, they came to a garden lying at the foot of mount Moriah; where they were ſhewn ſeveral large vaults, running at leaſt fifty yards under ground. They were built in two iſles, arched at top with huge firm ſtone, and ſuſtained with tall pillars, conſiſting each of one ſingle ſtone, two

yards in diameter: this might poſſibly be ſome work made to enlarge the area of the temple, for Joſephus deſcribes ſomething like it.

From theſe vaults they returned toward the convent. In their way they ſaw the beautiful gate of the temple, but they could but juſt view it in paſſing; it not being ſafe to ſtay here long, by reaſon of the ſuperſtition of the Turks. The enſuing morning they continued their progreſs round the city, going firſt to Bethſheba's Pool, ſuppoſed to be the place wherein that damſel waſhed herſelf, when the Royal Pſalmiſt ſpied her from the terraſs of his palace: Though others fix this pool elſewhere. A little below it begins the valley of Hinnom, on the weſt ſide of which is the place called antiently the Potter's Field; and afterwards, the Field of Blood, from its being purchaſed with the pieces of ſilver which were the price of the blood of Chriſt; but at preſent, from that veneration which it has obtained amongſt Chriſtians, it is called Campo Sancto. It is a ſmall plat of ground, not above thirty yards long, and about half as much

broad; one half of it is taken up by a ſquare fabrick, twelve yards high, built for a charnel-houſe. The corpſes are let down into it from the top; there being five holes left open for that purpoſe. Looking down through theſe holes they ſaw ſeveral bodies not quite decayed. The Armenians have the command of this burying-place, for which they pay the Turks the rent of one ſequin per day. The ſoil hereabouts is of a chalky ſubſtance.

A LITTLE below the Campo Sancto, is ſhewn an intricate cave, or ſepulchre, conſiſting of ſeveral rooms, one within another, in which the apoſtles are ſaid to have hid themſelves when they forſook their Maſter. The entrance of the cave diſcovers ſigns of its having been formerly painted. The valley of Jehoſaphat runs along by the mouth of that of Hinnom, and is watered in winter-time by the brook Cedron; but the ſtream was quite dried up when our author was there.

HERE is to be ſeen the well of Nehemiah, mentioned 2 Macc. i. 19. A little higher, in the valley on the left hand, you come to a tree, ſuppoſed to mark out the

place where the evangelical prophet was ſawn aſunder. About one hundred paces higher, on the ſame ſide, is the pool of Siloam; it was antiently dignified with a church, built over it, but now a tanner makes no ſcruple to dreſs his hides in it.

About a furlong farther on, is the fountain of the bleſſed Virgin, ſo called, becauſe ſhe was wont, as is reported, to reſort hither for water. Over-againſt the fountain, on the other ſide of the valley, is a village called Siloe, in which Solomon is ſaid to have kept his ſtrange wives: and above this village, is a hill called the mountain of Offence, becauſe there Solomon built the high places mentioned 1 Kings xi. 7. His wives having perverted his heart to abomination in his declining years.

On the ſame ſide, and not far diſtant from Siloe, they ſhew another Aceldema, or Field of Blood, ſo called, becauſe there it was that Judas hanged himſelf. A little farther, on the ſame ſide of the valley, there are ſhewn ſeveral Jewiſh monuments; amongſt the reſt are two noble antiquities, one called the ſepulchre of Zachary, and the other, the pillar of Abſa-

lom; cloſe by the latter, is the ſepulchre of Jehoſaphat, from which the whole valley takes its name.

UPON the edge of the hill, on the oppoſite ſide of the valley, there runs along, in a direct line, the wall of the city; near the corner of which there is a ſhort end of a pillar jetting out of the wall. Upon this pillar, the Turks have a tradition, that Mahomet ſhall ſit in judgment at the laſt day; and that all the world ſhall be gathered together in the valley below, to receive their doom from his mouth.

A LITTLE farther northward, is the gate of the temple; it is at preſent walled up, becauſe the Turks have a prophecy that their deſtruction ſhall enter at that gate; the completion of which prediction they endeavour thus to prevent. Below this gate, at the bottom of the valley, is a broad hard ſtone, diſcovering ſeveral impreſſions upon it, which you may fancy to be footſteps; theſe the friars tell you are prints made by our bleſſed Saviour's feet, when, after his apprehenſion he was hurried violently away to the tribunal of his blood-thirſty proſecutors.

From hence, keeping ſtill in the bottom of the valley, you come in a few paces to a place, which they call the Sepulchre of the Bleſſed Virgin; it has a magnificent deſcent of forty-ſeven ſtairs; on the right hand as you go down, is the ſepulchre of St. Anna the mother, and on the left, that of St. Joſeph, the huſband of the bleſſed Virgin. Going hence up the hill, toward the city, is ſhewn a broad ſtone, on which they ſay, St. Stephen ſuffered martyrdom; and not far from it a grot, into which they tell you the outrageous Jewiſh zealots caſt his body, when they had ſatiated their fury upon him. From hence they went immediately to St. Stephen's Gate, ſo called from its being thus near the place of the protomartyr's ſuffering; and then returned to their lodgings.

Next day they viſited certain intricate grottoes, called the Sepulchres of the Prophets; and farther on, at the top of a hill, from whence our Lord is ſaid to have aſcended, there formerly ſtood a church, built in commemoration of that glorious event. Of this church there now remains only an octagonal cupola; beneath which is ſaid

to be the very ſtone whereon the Son of God laſt ſtood. On it is the print of one of his feet; the impreſſion of the other the Turks have removed into their great moſque on mount Moriah. They have turned this chapel of the Aſcenſion alſo into a moſque. There are many other holy places about Jeruſalem, which theſe infidels have ingroſſed, under pretence of venerating them equally with the Chriſtians; but it is much more probable, that their view is to exact money from thoſe Franks whoſe devotion may lead them to viſit theſe ſacred places.

About two furlongs to the northward, is the higheſt part of mount Olivet; and upon that was anciently erected an high tower, in memory of that apparition of the two angels to the apoſtles, after our bleſſed Lord's aſcenſion, from which the tower derived its name. This antient monument remained till within theſe two years, when it was demoliſhed by a Turk, who had bought the field in which it ſtood. Nevertheleſs, from the natural height of the place, there is ſtill a fair proſpect of Jeruſalem, the adjacent country, and of the Dead Sea.

Our travellers deſcended by a road different from that by which they had gone up; and at the bottom of the hill there is a ſtone, upon which the bleſſed Virgin dropped her girdle at the time of her aſſumption, in order to convince Saint Thomas of the truth of that miracle, who it ſeems was incredulous more than once. The impreſſion of this girdle is to be ſeen upon the ſtone.

Twenty-one yards lower, between mount Olivet and the brook Cedron, lies a flat fifty-ſeven yards ſquare, which is ſaid to be Gethſemane. It is well planted with olives, which are a good commodity in Spain, as well as the ſtones and oil which they produce; it being ſuppoſed that they are the ſame trees which grew in the time of our Saviour; but this aſſertion is diſproved by Joſephus, in the 7th book of whoſe wars of the Jews, we are told, that Titus, during the ſiege of the holy city, cauſed all the trees within a hundred furlongs of it to be cut down, to ſupply his ſoldiers with wood, for making the aſſault upon the temple. At one corner of Gethſemane, is ſhewn a naked rock, on which Peter,

James, and John are ſuppoſed to have ſlept, during the agony of our Lord; and eight paces from it, is a ſtrip of ground twelve yards long, and one broad, on which Judas walked up, when he betrayed his maſter. And it is remarkable, that the Turks have cauſed it to be ſeparated from the reſt of the garden, holding in deteſtation, even as much as Chriſtians, ſuch an infamous piece of treachery.

NEAR St. Stephen's gate ſtands an indifferent Turkiſh houſe, ſaid to have been the ſpot whereon ſtood the palace of Pilate. From the terrace of this houſe you have a fair proſpect of all the place whereon the temple ſtood, indeed the only good proſpect that is allowed you of it; for there is no going between the borders of it, without forfeiting your life, or what is worſe, your religion. A fitter place for an auguſt building could not be found in the whole world than this area; it lies upon the top of mount Moriah, over-againſt mount Olivet; one may ſtill diſcern marks of the great labour that it coſt to cut away the hard rock, and to level ſuch a ſpace upon ſo ſtrong a mountain.

In the middle of the area ſtands at preſent a moſque of an octagonal figure, ſuppoſed to be built upon the ſame ground whereon anciently ſtood the Sanctum Sanctorum; it is neither eminent for its largeneſs, nor its ſtructure; and yet it makes a very ſtately figure by the ſole advantage of its ſituation. In this pretended houſe of Pilate, is ſhewn the room in which Chriſt was mocked with the enſigns of royalty, and buffeted by the ſoldiers. At the coming out of the houſe, is a deſcent where was antiently the Scala Sancta. On the other ſide of the ſtreet, which was antiently part of the palace, is the room where they ſay our Lord was ſcourged; it was once uſed for a ſtable, by the ſon of a certain baſſa of Jeruſalem; but preſently, upon this profanation, there enſued ſuch a mortality amongſt his horſes, as forced him to reſign the place; ſo that it was redeemed from that ſordid uſe; but nevertheleſs, it is now no better than a weaver's ſhop.

In their return from Pilate's palace, they paſſed along the Dolorous Way, and were ſhewn, 1ſt. The place where Pilate brought our Lord forth to preſent to the

people, with this myſtick ſaying, Behold the Man! 2d. The place whereon Chriſt fainted thrice under the weight of his croſs. 3d. Where the bleſſed Virgin ſwooned away. 4th. Where St. Veronica preſented the handkerchief. 5th. Where the ſoldiers compelled Simon the Cyrenian to bear the croſs.

FRIDAY, April the 9th, they took a view of Betheſda, which is 120 paces long, forty broad, and eight deep; there are ſome old arches remaining over it, although the water is at preſent dried up. Near at hand, is the convent and nunnery of St. Ann; the church is large and intire, as well as the lodgings; but both are deſolate and neglected. The bleſſed Virgin is ſaid to have been born in a grotto under this church; and the place is ſhewn to devout people.

AT a ſmall diſtance ſtands the houſe of the Phariſees, wherein Mary Magdalen, with her tears, waſhed the feet of our Saviour, and wiped them with her hair. In the afternoon of this day, our travellers viſited mount Gibon; and the pool of the ſame name, which is 106 paces long, and

ſixty-ſeven broad; it is lined with wall and plaiſter, and well ſtored with water. Bethlehem gate lies to the weſtward, at the diſtance of about two furlongs.

CHAP. VIII.

Concluſion of the feaſt of the Sepulchre. Mr. Maundrel ſets out on his return home; they are ſtopt by the emir of Chibly, but at length permitted to go on; of the preſent ſtate of Nazareth; of mount Tabor; they arrive at mount Libanus; Damaſcus, and the adjacent country deſcribed; of the proceſſion of the Hadgees.

APRIL the 10th, being the laſt day that the holy ſepulchre was to remain open during this feſtival, our travellers paid it a laſt viſit. The Turks call this the day of charity, becauſe they permit every body to enter, without taxing them; ſo that the pooreſt ſort of pilgrims have now an opportunity of indulging their devotion; though it is ſaid, that ſome abandoned wretches make uſe of it to pol-

lute the holy place with every kind of lewdneſs.

From the 11th to the 13th, Mr. Maundrel and his company kept cloſe within doors, to avoid the inſolence of the Turks; it being the feaſt of Byram, which ſucceeds the Ramadan, or Lent; and during which ſpace, they give themſelves up to all manner of libertiniſm.

On the 15th, the father-guardian delivered to each traveller a certificate of their having viſited all the holy places, in return for which, and other favours, they preſented the convent with fifty dollars a man; and ſet out with the Moſſolem or Governor, who was on his return to his maſter, the baſhaw of Tripoli. They had obtained this permiſſion by the means of a ſmall preſent; and they were induced to aſk it, as being told, that the roads grew every day more and more dangerous from the broils among the Arabs increaſing. However, the Moſſolem turned off from them at the end of the firſt ſtage, and they ſaw no more of him during their journey. The country people were, at this ſeaſon, every where employed in plowing the ground

to ſow cotton, and they uſed goads of an extraordinary ſize, ſome of them being at leaſt eight feet long, and ſix inches in circumference; at the larger end of it was fixed a ſtrong ſmall iron ſpade, for cleanſing the plough from the earth that might incumber it; to the leſſer end was affixed a prickle, wherewith they drive the oxen, which employment, as well as that of holding the plough, was managed by one and the ſame perſon.

APRIL the 17th, they arrived at a large old town, called Jeneen; it lies upon the ſkirts of Eſdraelon, and is the chief reſidence of the emir of Chibly, by whoſe order they were obliged to ſtay all day, till he ſhould receive the caphar from them in perſon; however, he at length permitted them to depart about midnight, after having accounted for it with one of his officers.

EARLY next morning they arrived at Nazareth, an inconſiderable village, lying in a cavity on the top of a high hill, where they were entertained by ſeven or eight friars, in a convent ſacred to the Annunciation. Theſe fathers lead a truly mor-

tified life, being in continual fear of the Arabs. The church of Nazareth is built in form of a croſs; but part of the main pillars have been broken away by the Turks, who therein expected to have found ſome hidden treaſure; and as this part contributed in a great meaſure to the ſupport of the roof, it is a little hard to find out by what art it is at preſent ſuſtained; the friars indeed immediately account for it, by having recourſe to a miracle.

THE houſe of Joſeph, wherein the Son of God lived near thirty years as man, is near at hand, and not far from the ſynagogue wherein he preached the ſermon mentioned in Luke iv. All thoſe places were antiently embelliſhed by the devout Helena, mother of Conſtantine; but her labours now lie in ruins.

MONDAY, April the 19th, they viſited mount Tabor, whereon our Saviour is ſaid to have been transfigured; it is ſteep, and hard to be aſcended; the top of it was antiently well fortified, and to this day there are to be ſeen the ruins of the walls and trenches. Here is a fertile area, deliciouſly planted round with trees, being open

only to the ſouth. Here are alſo ſeveral ciſterns of good water, and three contiguous grottoes, anſwering to three tabernacles, propoſed to be erected by St. Peter, in the aſtoniſhment that poſſeſſed him at the glory of the transfiguration.

Our author curiouſly enough obſerves, that almoſt all paſſages and hiſtories related in the goſpel, are repreſented by them that undertake to ſhew where every thing was done, as having been done moſt of them in grottoes; and that, even in caſes where the condition and circumſtances of the actions themſelves ſeem to require places of another nature. Thus, if you would ſee the ſpot where St. Ann was delivered of the bleſſed Virgin, you are carried to a grotto. If that of the Annunciation, it is alſo a grotto; if the place where our bleſſed Virgin ſaluted St. Elizabeth; if that of the Baptiſt's, or that of our bleſſed Saviour's nativity; if that of the Agony, or that of St. Peter's repentance, or that where the apoſtles made the creed; or this of the transfiguration, all theſe are grottoes. And in a word, wherever you go, you find almoſt every thing is repreſented as done un-

der ground. We muſt certainly infer from hence, that grottoes were held in great eſteem, or elſe they could never have been aſſigned, in ſpite of all probability, for the places in which were done ſo many various actions. Perhaps it was the hermits' way of living in grottoes, from the fifth or ſixth century downward, that has brought them into ſuch reputation.

FROM the top of mount Tabor, there is a diſtant view of the Mediterranean, and a fine proſpect of moſt of the places in which the Son of God performed his miracles. To the eaſtward you diſcover mount Hermon, at the foot of which our Lord raiſed the widow's ſon; and Endor, where Saul conferred with the witch. Due eaſt lies the ſea of Tiberius, over which hangs a ſteep mountain, where the ſwine mentioned in the 8th chapter of Matthew ran down and periſhed.

A FEW points to the north, appears the mount of Beatitudes; where our Saviour delivered the ſermon found in the 5th, 6th, and 7th chapters of Matthew.

AFTER dinner this day they viſited the mountain of Precipitation, down which

our Saviour's neighbours would have caſt him for his ſermon preached in Luke iv. But he had a miraculous eſcape; there are ſeveral ſmall holes in the rock, which the friars atteſt to be the marks of Chriſt's fingers, made while he reſiſted the violence of his enemies. On the 20th, they took their leaves of the guardian, preſenting him with five dollars a-piece for his civility, and proceeded towards Acra, where they were handſomely entertained by the French conſul, who carried them to ſee ſeveral caverns cut in a rocky mountain, about a mile from the ſea; and theſe appeared upon the niceſt inſpection to have been intended for the reſidence of living people; and not as ſepulchres for the dead. Who theſe ſubterranean inhabitants were, it is not eaſy to determine; nor yet in what age they lived. Strabo indeed deſcribes the Troglodytæ to have inhabited ſome tenements of this kind.

April the 24th they began to climb mount Libanus, which they found very ſteep and difficult. The next day, having paſſed the higheſt ridge of this mountain, where the ſnow lay cloſe to the road, they

began to deſcend; and in two hours came to a ſmall village, where there guſhes out a plentiful ſtream, which tumbling into a ſubjacent valley, there forms a fine brook, and loſes itſelf in the river Letane. Here, had they not been pretty reſolute, the collectors of the caphars would have impoſed upon them very much.

On the 26th, having paid a ſmall impoſition at Demas, they continued their way; but night overtook them in about an hour, in the moſt incomfortable ſituation, where was no graſs for their horſes; and ſcarcely more water than ſufficed to ſubſiſt a few frogs, with whoſe delicate muſick they were all night entertained. The next day they paſſed the river Barrady, over a new bridge; this river pours with vaſt rapidity from the mountains, fertilizing Damaſcus, and all the neighbouring plains, which are ſo raviſhingly delightful, ſo exquiſitely calculated for the indulgence of pleaſure, that Mahomet having viewed them from the top of a high hill, would not go forward, leſt he ſhould have given way to temptation; but went back again with this reflexion, "There is but one Pa-

radiſe deſigned for man! mine ſhall not be of this world."

THE city of Damaſcus lies due eaſt of Sidon, diſtant from it three days journey; it appears to be about two miles long, ſwelling more at each end than in the middle; and it is ſaid to be ſurrounded on every ſide for thirty miles with gardens well watered, planted with the choiceſt fruits, and adorned with fine alcoves, ſo that it looks as if it ſtood in the midſt of a wood.

DESCENDING from the precipice whence they had a view of this terreſtrial paradiſe, they were met by a Janizary, diſpatched to them by the Latin convent, and by him conducted into the city by a round-about way; being thereby ſecured from the inſults of the inhabitants, who are ſavage bigots.

THE garden walls about Damaſcus are built of great pieces of earth, faſhioned like bricks, and are laid one a-top of the other; ſome of them being two yards long, and more than one and a half thick. They ſcower the channels in their gardens by means of a great bough faſtened to a yoke

of oxen, and dragged along, while a heavy peaſant ſits upon and preſſes it to the bottom.

At the eaſt gate of the city, they were received by father Raphael, the guardian of the Latin convent, where they were accommodated with great civility. The ſtreets of Damaſcus are very narrow, and the houſes built of ſun-burnt brick, whereby you are up to the knees in mud when there is the leaſt rain; it is hard to divine what ſhould induce people to build in this wretched manner, when the neighbouring mountains can furniſh them with ſtones and other materials, for the moſt elegant ſtructures? Perhaps their natural indolence. Yet their gates and doors are beautifully and variouſly inlaid with marble; and ſurely no other part of the world can ſhew ſuch a ſtrange compound of marble and mud; grandeur and meanneſs. Our author deſcribes to you one of their houſes, and as they are all erected much upon the ſame plan, from hence you may form an idea of the reſt.

You generally find, ſays he, a large ſquare court, beautified with marble foun-

tains, variety of fragrant trees, and compaſſed round with ſplendid apartments and Duans; the Duans being about half a foot from the ground, floored and adorned on the ſides with marble, mixt with moſaic. The ceiling and pannels are, after the Turkiſh manner, richly painted and gilded; they have generally artificial fountains ſpringing up before them in marble baſons; and are furniſhed to the height of luxury with carpets and cuſhions; being ſo placed that you may always have either the ſhade or the ſun, which you pleaſe.

THE church of St. John Baptiſt is now converted into a moſque, and held too ſacred for Chriſtians to enter, or almoſt to look into. However, Mr. Maundrel had three ſhort views of it, looking over the gates. Theſe are vaſtly large, covered with braſs, inſcribed from top to bottom with Arabic characters; and in ſeveral places with the figure of a chalice, ſuppoſed to be the antient enſign or arms of the Mamalukes. On the north ſide of the church is a ſpacious court, ſcarcely leſs than one hundred and fifty yards long, and upwards of eighty broad. It is paved all over, and

flanked on the ſouth ſide by the church, on the other three ſides by a double cloiſter, ſupported by two rows of granite pillars of the Corinthian order, which are very lofty and beautiful. In this church are the head of St. John, and ſome other relicks, eſteemed ſo holy, that it is death even for a lay Turk to preſume to go into the room where they are kept. They were told here by a Turk of ſome faſhion, that Chriſt was to deſcend into this moſque at the day of judgment, as Mahomet was to do in that of Jeruſalem; but there is neither ground nor reaſon for this tradition.

From the church we went to the caſtle, which ſtands about two furlongs diſtant, towards the weſt: it is a good edifice in the ruſtic ſtile; in length, three hundred and forty paces, and in breadth, ſomewhat leſs. They were admitted but juſt within the gate, where they ſaw a ſtore of antient arms and armour: the ſpoils of the Chriſtians in former times. Amongſt the artillery was an old Roman baliſta; but this was a place on which they were not permitted long to gaze. At the eaſt end of the caſtle, there hangs down the wall a

ſhort chain cut in ſtone, a ſpecimen perhaps, and no more, of the ingenuity of the artificer. Leaving this place the 9th, they went to view the Bazars, which they found crowded with people, but ſcarcely worthy of notice.

EARLY the next morning they were preſent at the proceſſion of the Hadgees, ſetting out on their yearly pilgrimage to Mecca. Oſtan Baſſa, of Tripoli, being appointed their emir, or conductor, for this year.

IN this cavalcade, there came forty-ſix Delees, or religious madmen, carrying each a ſilk ſtreamer of red and green, or of yellow and green. After theſe came three troops of Segmen, an order of ſoldiers among the Turks; and next to them ſome troops of Spahis; theſe were followed by eight companies of Mugubrines, who are a body of foot, deſigned to be left in garriſon, maintained by the Turks, ſomewhere in the deſart of Arabia, and relieved every year with freſh men; with them were ſix pieces of ſmall cannon. In the next place came on foot the ſoldiers of the caſtle of Damaſcus, fantaſtically armed with coats of mail, gauntlets, &c. Theſe were fol-

lowed by two troops of Janizaries, and their aga, all mounted. Next came the Baſſa's two horſe-tails, preceded by his aga of the court; and then ſix led horſes finely ſhaped, and pompouſly accoutered; over the ſaddle of each was girt a large ſilver target, gilded with gold.

After theſe horſes came the Mahmal; this is a large pavillion of black ſilk, borne by an huge camel, and on every ſide reaching to the ground; it is adorned with gold fringes, and the camel ornamented with large ropes of beads, fiſh ſhells, fox tails, &c. Under this pavilion the Alcoran is placed with great ſolemnity, together with a new rich carpet, which the grand ſignior ſends every year to Mecca, for the covering of Mahomet's tomb; and the old one is brought back in return, which is eſteemed of ineſtimable value. The beaſt which carries this ſacred treaſure, is exempted from bearing burdens for ever after.

To the Mahmal ſucceeded another troop, headed by the Baſſa; the proceſſion concluded with twenty loaded camels.

CHAP. IX.

Of the Ager Damaſcenus; of the houſe of Annanius; Franks not allowed the uſe of horſes; Sidonia deſerted; of its ſixteen chapels; a miracle; Mr. Maundrel viſits the cedars of Libanus, the convent at Ganobine, and returns to Aleppo.

THIS ſhew being ended, our travellers went to the Ager Damaſcenus, a long beautiful meadow, juſt without the city; on the weſt ſide it is equally interſected by that branch of the river Barrady, which ſupplies the city; and is taken notice of, becauſe of a tradition current here, that Adam was made of the earth of this field.

ADJOINING to it is a large hoſpital, within which is a pleaſant ſquare court, enclo-ſed on the ſouth by a ſtately moſque, and on its other ſides by cloiſters, and lodgings of no contemptible ſtructure. Returning from hence homeward, they were ſhewn

by the way an elegant bagnio, and near it a coffee-houſe capable of entertaining four or five hundred people, ſhaded over-head with trees, and divided into two apartments, adapted to the reception of gueſts; one proper for the ſummer, the other for the winter. That deſigned for the ſummer, was a ſmall iſland, waſhed by a ſwift ſtream, and well ſhaded from the heat. Here were a multitude of Turks reclining upon the Duans, there being nothing which they behold with ſo much delight as water and verdure.

In the afternoon they went to viſit the houſe of Annanias, mentioned in Acts ix. 17. remarkable only for having in it a Chriſtian altar and a Turkiſh praying-place, not far from each other. About two furlongs nearer the city than the place whereon St. Paul was converted, is a tall timber ſtructure; and within it an altar erected whereat you are told the Apoſtle reſted for ſome time after his viſion, Acts ix. 8.

Being returned to the city, they were ſhewn the gate at which St. Paul was let down in a baſket, Acts ix. 25. This gate is at preſent walled up, as being ſuperflu-

ous. Mr. Maundrel next waited upon, and paid his compliments to, the great patriarch of this city; he was about forty years of age; the place of his reſidence was mean, neither was there any thing extraordinary in his perſon or converſation.

April the 30th, they went to viſit certain gardens, and ſpent the day about a mile out of town, in a very pleaſant ſummer-houſe, over a clear ſtream of water. Here were plenty of fruit-trees diſpoſed without the leaſt order or regularity. In viſiting theſe gardens, Franks are obliged to walk on foot, or elſe to ride on aſſes; the inſolence of the Turks not allowing them to mount on horſeback. To ſerve upon theſe occaſions, there are hackney aſſes always ſtanding ready equipped for hire; when you are mounted, the maſter of the aſs follows the beaſt wherever you are diſpoſed to go, goading him behind with a ſharp-pointed ſtick, which makes him move with expedition.

On the 2d of May, they ſet out for Sidonaiia; leaving on the right hand a hill, whereon Cain is ſuppoſed to have ſacrificed his brother Abel.

SYDONAIIA is remarkable for nothing but its wine; it was founded by the emperor Juſtinian, upon the top of the rock, thro' which, ſteps have been cut with great labour; and it would be otherwiſe inacceſſible. Upon the whole, it is a mean building; but the convent is incloſed with a ſtrong ſtone wall, and contains about twenty Greek monks, with double the number of nuns, who ſeemed to live together in a promiſcuous manner, without order or ſeparation. On this rock there are ſixteen churches differently dedicated, but the moſt of them lie in ruins. The chapel wherein the monks of the order daily perform divine ſervice, is remarkable for its boaſting of the following miracle.

HERE was formerly ſaid to have been an image ſacred to the holy Virgin, which performed many miracles; and this being ſtolen by a thief, was transformed into a real carnal ſubſtance; whereat the libertine was ſo much affected, that he immediately carried it back to the convent, acknowledging his guilt: the monks depoſited it with due reverence in a rich vaſe, under which is placed a ſilver baſon, to receive a holy oil

that diſtils from it, wonderful in diſorders of the eye.

THERE is an ancient ſepulchre on the eaſt ſide of the rock, the entrance of which is ornamented with ſix ſtatues. Here a perſon who accompanied our author had a very narrow eſcape from being killed by a Janizary, who fired a piſtol at him for having dropt a little wine on his garment.

THE next morning they viſited the houſe of Judas, and at their departure, each man preſented the convent with ten ducats, as a reward for the kindneſs wherewith they had been treated; and they afterwards ſet out for Balbec, upon the magnificent ruins of which we ſhall give a particular diſſertation in its proper place.

ON the 6th of May, having taken a ſurvey of the celebrated city laſt mentioned, they proceeded to mount Libanus, which they found covered with ſnow, and in labouring through it, there was much fatigue: here miſſing their way to Canobine, through the ignorance of their guide, they were obliged to turn off to Tripoli, where they arrived the next day.

SATURDAY May the 8th, in the after-

noon, Mr. Conſul Haſtings carried them to ſee the caſtle of Tripoli. It is pleaſantly ſituated on a hill, commanding the city, but has neither arms nor ammunition in it, and ſerves rather for a priſon than a garriſon. There was here at this time ſhut up a poor Chriſtian, called Sheck Eunice, a Maronite; who had formerly renounced his faith, and lived for many years in the Mahometan religion; but in his declining age he had retracted. This man was impaled by order of the Baſſa, two days after our author left Tripoli.

THE puniſhment of impaling is thus inflicted; they take a poſt as thick as a man's leg, and eight or nine feet long, which they make ſharp at one end, and this they force the criminal to carry to the place of execution, imitating herein the old Roman cuſtom of compelling malefactors to bear their own croſs. Being arrived here, they thruſt the ſtake through his fundament, and then taking him by the legs draw on his body, till the point of the ſtake appears at his ſhoulders; after this they erect and faſten it in a hole dug in the ground, and the criminal remains not only ſtill alive,

but often drinks, ſmoaks, and talks as one perfectly ſenſible. Thus ſome have continued for twenty-four hours, but generally after the wretch has ſuffered this torture and ignominy for an hour or two, ſome of the by-ſtanders is permitted to ſtab him; thereby putting an end to his miſery.

MAY the 9th, our author made one attempt more at viſiting Canobine, and the cedars of mount Libanus; and after a laborious journey of ſeven hours, he arrived among thoſe celebrated trees. They flouriſh in the ſnow, near the higheſt part of Lebanon, and are remarkable as well for their ſize and age, as for the frequent alluſions made to them in the holy Scriptures: there are ſome very old and of a prodigious bulk; others younger and ſmaller ſized. Of the former, Mr. Maundrel only reckoned up ſixteen, the latter are very numerous. One of the largeſt which he meaſured was twelve yards in circumference, and its branches were thirty-ſeven yards about. Near five or ſix yards from the ground, it was divided into five limbs, each limb being equal to a great tree.

AFTER about half an hour ſpent in ſurveying this place, the clouds began to thicken and to fly along upon the ground, which ſo obſcured the road, that the guide was very much at a loſs to find the way back again. They rambled about thus bewildered for near ſeven hours, and were in ſome fear of being forced to ſpend one night more at Libanus. But at laſt, after a long exerciſe of pains and patience, they hit upon the way to Canobine, where they arrived at the cloſe of the evening, and found a kind reception anſwerable to the great need they had for it, after ſo long a fatigue.

CANOBINE is a convent of the Maronites, and the ſeat of the patriarch, who is at preſent, ſays our author, F. Stephanus Edenenſis, a perſon of great learning and humanity. It is a very mean ſtructure, but its ſituation is admirably adapted to retirement and devotion. It is ſeated on the north ſide of a huge chaſm, on the ſteep of the mountain, about the midway between the top and the bottom. This chaſm runs a great length, and is not only always green, but interſpected with cata-

racts of falling water, the delightful murmurings of which add to the ſolemnity and ſolitude of the place. It ſtands at the mouth of a great cave, having a few ſmall rooms fronting outward that enjoy the light of the ſun; the reſt are all under ground. It was founded by the emperor Theodoſius the Great; and though it has been ſeveral times rebuilt, yet the patriarch aſſured me, the church was of the primitive foundation. But whoever built it, it is a mean fabrick, and no great credit to its founder. At the ſide of the wall were two ſmall bells to call the monks to their devotions; a privilege allowed no where elſe in Turkey; nor would it be ſuffered here, but that the Turks are out of hearing.

The valley of Canobine was antiently, as it well deſerves, very much reſorted to for religious retirement; you ſee here ſtill hermitages, cells, and monaſteries without number. There is ſcarcely a prominence upon the ſide of the mountain, without ſome little ſtructure upon it for the reception of monks and hermits, though few or none of them are now inhabited.

THE following day after dinner Mr. Maundrel left this place, and returned to Tripoli; after a journey of ſix hours thro' a narrow path cut in the chaſm before mentioned.

MAY the 11th, they took their leaves of their friends at Tripoli, in order to return to Aleppo, and had ſome debate with their ſelves, whether to take the ſame way that they came, when outward bound, or a new way by Emiſſa, Hempſe and Hamal; but being warned of ſome diſturbances upon this latter road, they agreed to return the ſame way they came.

OUR author does not mention any thing remarkable that occurred upon the road back, which they paſſed in eight days, except that the peaſants, inſtead of cutting down their corn, pluck it up in handfuls, ſo cloſe, that they tear away roots and all, and leave behind them no traces of fertility: this they do, that they may loſe none of the ſtraw, which is the only ſuſtenance of their cattle, hay being not known in this climate.

THE

TRAVELS

OF

Dr. THOMAS SHAW,

Fellow of Queen's-College, OXFORD,
And F. R. S.

CHAP. I.

Of the Algerine dominions; their extent, &c. Oran and Arzeu described; of Sherſhell, ſuppoſed to be the antient Cæſarea, and why; of the Sepulchre of the Chriſtian Women.

DR. Shaw is in great eſtimation for the accuracy of the accounts by him delivered to us of the countries through which he paſſed; and his great taſte and

curioſity have recommended his work to the peruſal of ſome of the moſt judicious people in theſe kingdoms, as well as abroad; our giving them an extract here, muſt be certainly acceptable.

He begins with a general deſcription of the kingdom of Algiers, which is one of the moſt conſiderable diſtricts in that part of Africa called Barbary, and now under the Turkiſh ſubjection. It is bounded to the W. with Twunt, and the mountains of Trara; to the S. with the Sahara or Deſert; to the E. with the river Zaine, the antient Tuſca; and to the N. with the Mediterranean Sea.

According to the beſt geographical accounts, it is in the broadeſt place 240 miles over; and Sanſon, who is extremely correct, makes it from W. to E. 900 miles in length; though by the exacteſt obſervations of our judicious author, the ſpace of ground between Twunt and Tabarka is not more than 460 miles; the firſt of theſe places lies in 0 degrees 16 minutes W. longitude from London; and the latter upon the river Zaine, in 9 degrees 16 minutes to the E.

THE Algerine dominion beyond the Tell, or the more advanced parts of the mountains of Atlas, is more uncertain and precarious; for which reaſon Dr. Shaw fixes its limits on that quarter, upon the northern ſkirts of the Sahara. Some of the villages of Zab pay an annual tax to the Turks by way of fealty; others again are independent; and the inhabitants of Bildulgerid are not to be brought under contribution, keeping always either aloof or upon their guard, when the Turkiſh armies take the field.

THE mountains of Atlas are rarely if ever found to be equal to ſome of the larger mountains of Great Britain; and ſuch of them as fell in our author's way to examine, come not, according to his opinion, in competition either with the Alps or Apenines. Let us conceive, ſays he, a number of hills of 4, 5, or 600 yards perpendicularly high, with an eaſy aſcent, and ſucceſſive groves of fruit and foreſt trees, riſing as it were in ranges one above the other; and then ſhall we be furniſhed with an idea of thoſe hills which at preſent employ our attention. More effectually to

realize the ſcene, let us here and there add the proſpect of a rocky precipice, a broken eminence, and a village of the Kabyles, and we ſhall have no need to heighten the picture with the nocturnal flames, melodious ſounds, or imaginary beings attributed to theſe places by the antients.

TWUNT, the frontier village of the Algerines to the ſea, is defended by a ſmall fort, and lies four leagues S. W. of Cape Horne; which is one of the moſt conſpicuous promontories to the eaſtward of the celebrated river Malva, otherwiſe called Mullovia, which is large and deep, and diſcharges itſelf into the Mediterranean Sea, over-againſt the Bay of Almeria, in Spain.

AT ſome diſtance from Cape Hone, we find the river Tafna, on the weſtern banks of which are the ruins of an antient city, called Siga, once the capital of Numidia, at preſent known by the name of Tackumbreet; and is probably the Tabecritum of Leo; though againſt this ſuppoſition ſome objections may be advanced.

IT would be tedious, and foreign to the deſign of this collection to detain the rea-

der with the various diſputes of geographers, concerning the name and ſituation of the different places mentioned by Dr. Shaw; it being ſufficient for us to take notice of ſuch as are moſt remarkable. For this reaſon we ſhall paſs over many rivers, towns, villages, cities, and mountains, till we arrive at Oran, a fortified town about a mile in circumference, built upon the declivity of a mountain, and over-looked by two caſtles. Leſs than half a furlong to the weſtward of this mountain, there is another caſtle in a ſituation ſomewhat higher than the former; but there lying a larger vale between them, their reſpective ridges are ſo remarkably diſunited, that they form a very convenient landmark for mariners.

To the S. and S. E. there are two caſtles erected upon the ſame level with the lower part of the town, but ſeparated from it by a deep winding valley. This may be conſidered as a natural trench to the ſouth-ſide of the city, and in the upper part of it, at three furlongs diſtance from the town, there is a ſpring of excellent water, more than a foot in diameter. The

rivulet formed by this fountain, adapts its courſe to the ſeveral windings of the valley, and paſſing under the walls of the city, plentifully ſupplies it with water. We ſee at every opening of the valley, ſuch a pleaſing confuſed view of rocky precipices, plantations of orange trees, and rills of water trickling down from them, that nature rarely diſplays herſelf in ſuch a variety of proſpects, and cool retreats. Near this fountain there is another caſtle, which forbids all approaches of an enemy, and is an excellent defence to the city.

THREE of theſe caſtles are regular polygons; the other two, viz. the higheſt upon the ridge, and the eaſtermoſt of thoſe that lie before the town, are built with battlements and loop-holes, like ſome old fortifications in England. Oran hath two gates; that which lies neareſt the port is called the gate of the ſea; over it is built a large ſquare tower, which might be eaſily fortified. The other is called the gate of Flemſan, and has an oblong battery, with ſeveral ports for cannon.

ON the N. W. which is the higheſt part of the city, ſtands the citadel; on all the

angles of which ſeveral pieces of cannon are mounted; whilſt the lower and oppoſite corner to the N. E. is defended by a regular baſtion; from all which circumſtances Oran muſt be conſidered as a place of ſome conſequence; and the Spaniards, who are now poſſeſſed of it, would not have made ſo eaſy a conqueſt, without ſome ſtrange miſconduct, or ſome unaccountable infatuation on the part of the Moors.

THESE Chriſtian conquerors have ornamented the place with ſeveral beautiful pieces of architecture, in the Roman ſtyle; but yet neither ſo ſtrong nor ſo ſolid as the antients. They have alſo farther imitated the Romans, in carving upon every convenient place, inſcriptions in their own language, the characters of which are large and legible.

IN travelling from Oran to the great Port, there is a ſmall rill of water to be paſſed, which riſes about a furlong from the ſea, and has no right to the name of a river.

THREE Roman miles from the port, lies Arzew, the country for ſome miles behind which is a fertile champain ſoil. If we

look down upon the ſea from ſome contiguous precipices, we ſhall find that it muſt have been a natural ſafeguard to the city. The water made uſe of by the inhabitants at preſent, is lower than the ſea, a circumſtance that will perhaps account for the brackiſhneſs of it. They draw it below the precipices from a number of wells, which, by the maſonry, appear to be as old as the city. Yet they have a tradition, that their predeceſſors were better ſupplied, in having water conveyed to them by an aqueduct, ſome of the arches of which are ſtill ſhewn as a proof of this tradition; yet, as theſe want the channel, and no farther traces appear in the way to the Sigg and the Tallelet, the only rivers that could furniſh the water, we may imagine them rather to have been a part of ſome other edifice; but of what kind this ſmall fragment is not ſufficient to inſtruct us. However, in ſome meaſure to ſupply the want of ſuch a conveniency, the founders have made the uſual proviſion for collecting the rain-water, by building the whole city upon ciſterns. Theſe ſtill ſubſiſt, but are converted to a different

uſe, ſerving the inhabitants for ſo many hovels to dwell in.

THERE are ſeveral capitals, baſes, ſhafts of pillars, and other antient materials, ſcattered among the ruins. A well-finiſhed Corinthian capital of Parian marble, ſupports the ſmith's anvil; and in the Cadi's houſe, our author accidentally diſcovered a beautiful Moſaic pavement, thro' the rents of a ragged carpet ſpread over it.

FIVE miles to the ſouthward of Arzew, there is a large compaſs of ground full of ſalt-pits, from whence the neighbouring people are ſerved with ſalt. This commodity, from the facility of digging it, the ſhortneſs afterwards of the carriage, and the advantage of the adjacent port, would, under any other government, be a branch of trade almoſt invaluable, as the pits themſelves are not to be exhauſted. A little to the eaſtward, is the mouth of the rivers Simkne and Habrah, which unite about three miles before they fall into the ſea. Except in the rainy ſeaſon, theſe rivers are loſt in the ſand, when they are out; the place at which they are croſſed, is called

El Muchadhah, or the Ford. It lies upon the road from Arzew to Muſtygannim.

THE laſt-mentioned city is built in form of a theatre, and is ſaid to be made up of many villages, formerly ſeparated, but by degrees enlarging into one. There are ſome unoccupied ſpaces here that ſeem to confirm this conjecture, and in one of them particularly, which lies near the centre of the city, there are the remains of an old Mooriſh caſtle, which was built before fire-arms were known, as appears from its ſtructure.

MUSTYGANNIM, from one quarter, commands the port, and a fine proſpect of the ſea; here it is defended by a ſtrong wall of hewn ſtone, and a caſtle, in which there is a Turkiſh garriſon. On every other ſide it is encompaſſed with hills, whence an enemy might eaſily annoy it. The chief ſtrength of the place conſiſts in a citadel, erected upon an eminence, which commands both the town and the country adjacent.

MASSAGRAM lies within a furlong of the ſea, twelve miles to the N. E. of the ford; it is a ſmall town, encloſed within a mud

wall, and flanked to the W. by a range of hills. Both theſe places are delightfully ſituated, in a ſoil extremely fertile, as well as plentifully ſupplied with water; and the road between them, which runs along the ſea-ſhore, is pleaſantly variegated by gardens, orchards, and handſome country ſeats.

On the S. and S. E. they are bounded by a range of hills, that ſtop the progreſs of the noxious winds accompanying the hotter ſeaſons; and refreſhing ſtreams ſteal down on every hand. The caſtle, and ſome tumbling walls on the N. W. appear, from what remains of them, to have been erected by the Romans.

There is a fine fountain to the E. N. E. of Muſtygannim, where, according to a tradition among the Arabs, there was once a bloody battle fought, in which the vanquiſhed party were to a man cut off. This place is called Kalmeeta, and three miles to the N. W. of it, is the mouth of the Shelliffe, which is the largeſt river in the kingdom.

More to the E. N. E. in a low ſwampy ſituation contiguous to the ſea, is Tnis, or

Tennis, which was the metropolis of a petty kingdom, before the conqueſts of the Barbaroſſæ; it contains a few miſerable huts, and is watered by a brook, which falls into the ſea, near a ſmall adjacent iſland. The harbour is very dangerous, being not at all defended from the weſt and north winds, which prove fatal to many veſſels that touch here in the ſtormy ſeaſons; and from hence large quantities of corn are ſhipped for Europe. The Moors have a tradition, that the natives of this place were formerly in ſuch reputation for ſorcery, that ſome of them were employed by Pharaoh to oppoſe their miracles to thoſe of Moſes. They are ſtill the greateſt cheats in the whole country, and not at any rate to be truſted. The moſt remarkable promontory in all Barbary is not far off; it is a high rocky mountain, ſtretching a good way into the ſea; modern geographers call it Cape Tennis, and the Moors diſtinguiſh it by the name of the Bell, alluding to a grotto figured in the lower part thereof.

In a bay, ſomething more than eight leagues to the eaſtward, is the mouth of

the Teffert, a river of no great conſequence, except in the rainy ſeaſons, when it is dangerous to be forded. Five miles diſtant is Sherſhell, a city famous for ſteel, earthen ware, and ſuch utenſils of iron as are uſed among the Kabyles and Arabs. It is made up of low, tiled houſes, which take up about a mile of ground; but was formerly of more extent and conſequence than at preſent.

It is certain, that this was once the ſituation of a city little inferior to Carthage, if we may be allowed to form an opinion of its magnificence from the pillars, capitals, ciſterns, and moſaic pavements that are ſtill to be ſeen. The water of the river Haſhem was conducted hither thro' a large ſumptuous aqueduct, ſeveral fragments of which remain among the neighbouring mountains and valleys to the S. E. and are inconteſtable proofs of the beauty and grandeur of the work. There are moreover, two other conduits to the S. E. that furniſh Sherſhell with water; and nothing can ſurely be more ineſtimable than theſe legacies of the antients.

The ſituation of this place was nobly a-

dapted to ſtrength and beauty. It was ſecured from the encroachments of the ſea by a ſtrong wall near forty feet high, ſupported by buttreſſes, and winding by the ſea-ſhore for near two miles. Two furlongs within this wall, the city begins upon a level, and afterwards riſes gradually, for more than a mile, to a conſiderable elevation. One of the principal gates on the land-ſide, is near the ſummit of this elevation, and leads to the rugged mountains of the Beni Menaſſer. Of the two others lying on the ſea-ſhore, the weſtern gate lies under the ſhade of the high mountains of the Beni Yifrah; and the eaſtern gate towards the mountainous diſtrict of Shenooah.

SHERSHELL being thus ſhut up by mountains and paſſes difficult of acceſs, all communication with it may be eaſily cut off, whenever the neighbouring tribes chuſe to be troubleſome, a diſpoſition in which they are often found. From this circumſtance we may reaſonably conclude, that Sherſhell is no other than Julia Cæſarea; and theſe words of Procopius confirm the conjecture, viz. "That the Romans could on-

" ly approach it by ſea; all the avenues " by land being in the hands of its neigh- " bours." Moreover, the caravans are thirty days journey between Sherſhell and Tunis, the neighbourhood of antient Carthage; and it engroſſed exactly the ſame ſpace of time, according to the author juſt now mentioned, to travel from Carthage to Cæſarea. They have a tradition, that the city was formerly deſtroyed by an earthquake; and that the port, which was before large and commodious, was thereby choaked up with buildings. At low water, many large pillars, and pieces of wall, are to be ſeen at the bottom of the Cothon, which communicates with the weſtern part of the port; and theſe could not have been brought hither by any other accident.

THE Cothon was well contrived for the convenience and ſafety of the veſſels that anchored in it; and the founder's ingenuity in ſupplying it with water, is a topic worthy of admiration. For this purpoſe, ſeveral floors and moſaic pavements, were laid upon an eminence, forming the northern mound of the port, and the Cothon,

in which the rain-water was received as it fell, and thence paſſed off by means of ſome ſmall conduits into an oval ciſtern, capable of containing many thouſand tons of water; and this water was appropriated to the uſe of the Cothon. The diameter of the port, which is of a circular form, is 200 yards, but that part of it which was formerly moſt commodious, is now filled up by a ſand bank.

THIRTEEN miles E. by S. of Sherſhell, is the city of Tefeſſad, which appears to be the Tipaſa of old geography. We are told by many writers, that the Chriſtian inhabitants of this place were in the fourth century perſecuted by the Arians, who ordered their tongues to be cut out; notwithſtanding which piece of cruelty, heaven endowed them with the gift of ſpeech, and enabled them, tongueleſs as they were, to relate their misfortunes.

THE coaſt all along from Tefeſſad to Algiers, is, in many places for two or three leagues together, either woody or mountainous, whereby the fine plains of Metejiah, that lie behind it, are conveniently ſecured from the more immediate in-

fluence of the boiſterous northern blaſts blowing from the ſea.

Seven miles from Tefeſſad, E. by S. upon the mountainous part of the ſea-coaſt, lies the Kuber Romeah, or Roman Sepulchre, which may alſo be interpreted, the Sepulchre of the Chriſtian Women. It is a ſolid compact edifice, built of free-ſtone; the height of it is 100 feet; and, though the Turks have demoliſhed part of it in hopes of finding ſome treaſure, which they ſuppoſe to have been buried underneath; yet it is ſtill ſufficiently high to ſerve as a land-mark for mariners. From the elegancy of the workmanſhip, the goodneſs of the materials, and the form of its conſtruction, we have room to ſuppoſe it more antient than the Mahometan conqueſts; and to be the ſame monument which is by Mela appropriated to the interment of the kings of Numidia.

CHAP. II.

Of ſeveral remarkable places in the Southern Provinces; with ſome account of the people.

THE moſt remarkable place which we next find mentioned by Dr. Shaw, is the city of Tremeſen, by the Moors pronounced Telemſan, or Tlemſan. It lies upon a riſing-ground, below a range of rocky precipices, which very probably are the Sachratain, ſpoken of by Edriſi; and upon the firſt ridge of them is a large ſtrip of level ground, watered by ſeveral ſprings; which flowing ſome little way in diſtinct ſtreams, at length unite, and become forceable enough to turn ſeveral mills; as theſe ſtreams approach Tlemſan, they form variety of caſcades, which afford an entertaining proſpect.

THE city is well watered on every part, from a reſervoir, which is filled by ſubterraneous channels, communicating with the neighbouring mountains. In the weſt

part of the city, there is a large ſquare baſon, of Mooriſh workmanſhip, 200 yards long, and 100 broad. Here, according to a tradition credited among the inhabitants, the kings of Tlemſan were wont to take the diverſion of ſailing, and their ſubjects to practiſe the art of navigation. This baſon was perhaps deſigned for a reſervoir of waters in caſe of the city's being beſieged; becauſe the ſources wherewith it was otherwiſe ſupplied, might have been eaſily cut off by an enemy. The moſt part of the walls of Tlemſan are compoſed of a mortar made of ſand, lime, and pebbles; to which time has given the ſtrength and ſolidity of ſtone. In order to ſtifle the more ſpeedily and effectually, any inteſtine commotions, or to render the attacks of an enemy ſtill more fruitleſs, the city was divided into ſeveral wards; each of which might be conſidered as a diſtinct town in itſelf, being ſurrounded by a high wall.

THE antient Tlemſan was about four miles in circumference; but ſcarcely more than one ſixth of it now remains, it having been for the moſt part deſtroyed by

the dey of Algiers, on account of its having been diſaffected in the year 1670.

Among the ruins are found many fragments of Roman antiquities; and in the walls of an old moſque the Doctor diſcovered ſeveral altars dedicated to the Dii Manes.

In the village of Hubbed, to the eaſtward of Tlemſan, there is a tomb much reverenced by the Mahometans, and a mile to the weſtward, an encloſed area of two miles circuit, in the center of which is a high tower and a plentiful fountain. On this ſpot once ſtood the city of Manfourah, nothing of which, not even a houſe remains, except the walls, which are of the ſame nature with thoſe of Tlemſan.

The plains of Zeidoure begin upon the banks of the Iſſer, below Tlemſan, and extend themſelves through a beautiful interchange of hills and valleys, to the diſtance of thirty miles. About the middle of theſe plains, is a high pointed precipice, called, the Pinnacle of the Ravens, below which runs the Sinan. This waters a piece of ground whereon formerly ſtood a city

of the ſame name, diſtant from Tlemſan thirty-two miles to the N. N. E.

THREE or four miles from hence is pointed out the place where Barbaroſſa, to elude the purſuit of his enemies, ſcattered about his treaſure; a device that could not ſecure his eſcape. There is a Mooriſh ſanctuary on the other ſide of the river, ſtanding upon an eminence. It is inhabited by ſeveral religious, who have no beverage but the water of Wedel Mailah, a neighbouring ford, whoſe banks are of a gritty ſubſtance. All theſe plains, and the adjacent mountains, are poſſeſſed by Welled Aly, and Welled Mouſa Ben Abdallah, the hereditary enemies of Welled Zeire and Halfa, who own another part of the country.

EIGHT leagues S. S. E. of Muſtygannim lies El Callah; it is built upon an eminence, and ſurrounded by hills, being but poorly contrived, and having neither drains nor cauſeways to carry off the filth; it is a great market for carpets, in the manufacturing which, ſeveral neighbouring villages are employed.

IN a fine plain, five leagues to the S. W. of El Callah, is a town of mud-walled ca-

bins, called Maſcar; it is defended by a little fort, in which, however, no Turks are permitted to garriſon.

NINETY miles E. N. E. of Tlemſan, are the ruins of Tagadempt, a large city, which was ſome years ſince plundered by the Arabs; who have left manifeſt and lamentable proofs of their ignorance and barbarity, in the tearing down and deſtroying ſeveral magnificent pieces of architecture, wherewith the place was once ornamented. Nor have they been more kind to Swamma, which is now a heap of rubbiſh; as is alſo Loha, eight leagues E. of Tagadempt.

BELOW the Parallel of Loha, is a fertile country, inhabited by a very powerful tribe of Arabs, called Sweede; they are of that rank which pays no tribute, and ſerve the Algerines as volunteers.

ABOVE the Sweede, from Tagadempt to the Sebbeine Aine, are the encampments of the Welled Booker, behind which are thoſe of the Welled Haleef, a tribe that never tills the ground, but is rich in cattle.

SEVEN miles farther are the ruins of a Roman ſtation, with the Sheliffe running under it; and at eleven miles diſtance, but

a league from the river, is an old ſquare tower, called Memmounturroy; it was a ſepulchral monument of the Romans. The Arabs ſuppoſed it to have been built over ſome treaſure; and in this conjecture they were confirmed by an inſcription over it, to the following purpoſe. "My treaſure "is my ſhade; and my ſhade is my trea- "ſure. Search for it; deſpair not. Nay, "deſpair; do not ſearch."

FIVE miles farther, upon the banks of the river Sheliffe, are the ruins of two large cities, viz. Memnon and Sinaab; the latter muſt have been, in our author's opinion, much the moſt conſiderable, being at leaſt three miles in circuit; though he ſaw only ſome pieces of walls, and ſpacious ciſterns remaining. In the neighbourhood a market is kept on Thurſdays.

ON an eminence, three miles from Sinaab, of which it commands a view, is a mud-walled village, under the Turkiſh yoke, named Merjejah; it is only remarkable for being under the protection of the Marrabutts, one of the greateſt and moſt powerful, as well as the moſt antient family, in this part of the country.

Beni Maſhed, the Beni Arax of modern geographers, is in much the ſame condition and ſituation. It is ſituated eight miles E. and by S. of Merjejah, and two miles N. of the river Fuddah. This place made ſome figure in former ages, having had a citadel, 2000 houſes, and a race of warlike inhabitants, that commanded the country as far as El Callah and Maſcar. At preſent it is conſiderably reduced; the citadel is in ruins, the houſes changed into huts; and the inhabitants are become timorous and cowardly. The nature of the ſoil is however ſtill the ſame, and produces fruit, particularly figs, remarkably large and delicate.

Deſcending the mountains of Beni Raſhed to the N. you arrive in a fertile plain whereon once ſtood El Herba, a Roman city, ſomething more than a mile in circuit. Here are ſeveral pillars of blue marble, of excellent workmanſhip; but their capitals, which are of the Corinthian order, are much defaced.

Paſſing E. N. E. over a fertile plain, through which the river Sheliffe pleaſantly winds, you arrive at Maliama, other-

wiſe Maniama, built upon a mountain two leagues from El Herba. At a diſtance it has the appearance of a multiplicity of buildings and antiquities; from inſpecting which, a virtuoſo may promiſe himſelf a ſufficient recompence for his trouble in climbing it: but here he will find himſelf deceived; the place conſiſting only of a few houſes covered with tiles. However, it has many advantages, being well watered, in a wholeſome ſituation, commanding a delightful and extenſive proſpect, and ſurrounded by pleaſant vineyards, and delightful gardens.

HITHER the devout people of Bleda, Algiers, &c. repair in great numbers in ſpring, to pay their devotions at the ſhrine of Sede Youſeph, the titular ſaint. Here are ſome fragments of Roman architecture; and from an inſcription upon one of them, it is probable that in this obſcure place the grandſon, and great grandſon of Pompey, lie interred. It is impoſſible to reflect upon the misfortunes of this hero and his family, without being ſenſibly affected; and here the following elegant epigram of Martial naturally occurs.

Pompejos juvenes Aſia atq; Europa, ſed ipſum
Terra tegit Libyes: ſi tamen ulla tegit.
Quid mirum tota ſi ſpargitur orbe? Jacere
Uno non poterat tanta ruina loco.

EIGHT miles E. N. E. of Maliana, half way between Stoeli and the ſea, are the baths of Mereega, the Aquæ Calidæ Colonia of the antients; the largeſt and moſt frequented of theſe baths, is a baſon twenty feet ſquare, and four deep; here the water bubbles up in a degree of heat juſt ſupportable, and hence paſſes off, having filled this, to a neighbouring ciſtern, made uſe of by the Jews, who are not allowed to bathe in company with Mahometans. Both theſe baths are now open to the weather, and half filled with ſtones and rubbiſh; though at one time they were well covered, and kept in excellent order. Numbers of people afflicted with rheumatiſm, jaundice, and other ill habits of body, reſort hither in the ſpring-time, and are ſaid to find ſome alleviation of their grievances.

HIGHER up the hill is another bath, the

water of which being too hot, is conveyed into another room, where it is made uſe of in an operation of the ſame nature and effect with our pumping.

BETWEEN theſe two baths there are the ruins of another Roman town, equal in ſize to El Herba, wherein are found tombs and ſtone coffins of an unuſual bigneſs: of theſe, as well as of a thigh bone immoderately large, which was here dug up, our author ſpeaks not from his own knowledge, but from hearſay; and it muſt be obſerved, that the Arabs are fond of the wonderful; and rather than want ſtories worthy of this epithet, they will coin them.

THE largeneſs of the bones that are ſometimes raked up among the ſepulchres, may be eaſily accounted for, if we remember, that the Goths and Vandals often buried the horſe, ſword, armour, and all his accoutrements, with a deceaſed ſoldier. This cuſtom paſſed over with them very probably into Africa; the natives of which not being nice anatomiſts, might confound the bones of the horſe with thoſe of the man; and this aſſertion with regard to interment, is confirmed by the many long

ſwords with handles, ſhaped like croſſes, that are often taken up in this country.

THESE baths are ſurrounded by ſteep valleys, neither to be climbed nor croſſed, without much difficulty; which is however compenſated by a ſucceeding view of the delightful plains of Metijiah, ſtretching away to the northward, for more than fifty miles in length, and twenty in breadth, well watered by ſeveral winding rivulets and wholeſome ſprings. Here are many fine country ſeats and farms that ſupply Algiers with proviſions; and beſides, fruit, pot-herbs, rice, and grain of every ſort; the ſoil abounds alſo with flax and alhenna. Being now arrived near the renowned city laſt mentioned, we ſhall paſs by many towns and villages of no great conſequence, at leaſt in theſe days, to come to our author's deſcription of this, which we imagine one of the moſt important places in this part of the world.

CHAP. III.

The city of Algiers, and ſome part of the adjacent country deſcribed.

ALGIERS, ſurnamed by the Turks the Warlike, which has for ages braved the utmoſt power of Chriſtendom, is not more than a mile and a half in circumference. Yet it is thought to contain 100,000 Mahometans, among whom there are ſcarcely more than 30 renegadoes; 15,000 Jews, and 2000 Chriſtian ſlaves; it faces the N. and N. E. and is ſituated upon the declivity of a hill, whereby the houſes riſing gradually one above another, have, almoſt all of them, a full view of the ſea. The walls are weak, unleſs where ſtrengthened by ſome additional fortifications.

THE Cauſſabah, which is built upon the higheſt part of the city, and makes the weſtern angle of it, is of an octagonal figure; each of the ſides in view having their proper port-holes or embraſures. The north

angle near the gate of the river, and the ſouth angle near Bab-azoone, are each of them guarded with a ſmall baſtion. The new gate, lying between Bab-azoone and the Cauſſabah, hath a ſquare upright battery; and betwixt the Cauſſabah and Babelwed, there are port holes, with a few pieces of cannon. The ditch which formerly ſurrounded the city, is now almoſt entirely filled up, except at Babelwed and Bab-azoone; where likewiſe it would be of little conſequence. From Babelwed and Bab-azoone to the Cauſſabah, each way, is about three furlongs, in an aſcent of fifteen or twenty degrees.

Betwixt Babelwed and the ſandy bay that lieth a furlong from it to the N. W. is the caſtle of Sitteet Ako-leet, built for the moſt part in a regular manner, and very capable of annoying an enemy, both in their landing, and lodging themſelves afterwards in the Bohyras, as they call the adjacent plains and gardens. Half a mile to the weſt of Bab-azoone is the Ain-Rebat, where there is likewiſe another ſandy bay, betwixt which and Algiers, the road is more ſtrait and rugged than at Babel-

wed, though in the narroweſt part of it, thirty men may march in front. There is a caſtle for the ſecurity of this road, but it is inferior in ſtrength and extent to that of Sitteet Akoleet. Both theſe bays are overlooked by a ridge of hills lying nearly upon a level with the Cauſſabah. Two convenient caſtles are built here, one of which, called from its five acute angles, the Caſtle of the Star, is within a furlong of the Cauſſabah, and commandeth the ſandy bay at Babelwed; the other, called the Emperor's Caſtle, hath a full command of the Caſtle of the Star, and the ſandy bay towards Ain-Rebat.

Beyond Babelwed, as far as Ras Accounatter, the ſhore is made up of rocks and precipices; but to the eaſtward of Algiers, from Ain-Rebat, round a large bay to Temendfuſe, it is acceſſible in moſt places. The emperor Charles V. in his unfortunate expedition, A. D. 1541, againſt this city, landed his army at Ain-Rebat, where there ſtill remains a fragment of the pier, ſuppoſed to have been erected for that purpoſe: the better likewiſe to ſecure a correſpondence with his fleet, and to ſuc-

cour his troops in their intended approaches towards the city, he poſſeſſed himſelf of the ridge lately deſcribed, where he built the inner part of the caſtle that continues to be called after his name. Such is the ſtrength and ſituation of Algiers to the landward; but towards the ſea we ſhall find it better fortified; and capable to make a more ſtrenuous defence. For the embraſures in this direction are all employed; the guns are of braſs, and their carriages, and other utenſils in good order.

THE battery of the mole gate upon the eaſt angle of the city, is mounted with ſeveral long pieces of ordnance, one of which hath ſeven cylinders, each of them three inches in diameter. Half a furlong to the W. S. W. of the harbour, is the battery of Fiſher's gate, or the gate of the ſea, which, conſiſting of a double row of cannon, commands the entrance of the port, and the road before it.

THE port is of an oblong figure, 130 fathom long, and 80 broad. The eaſtern mound of it, which was formerly the iſland, is well ſecured by ſeveral fortifications. The caſtle, built by the Spaniards,

whilſt they were maſters of the iſland, and the two remote batteries, erected within this century, are ſaid to be bomb-proof; and have each of them their lower embraſures mounted with 36 pounders; but the middle battery, which appears to be the oldeſt, is the leaſt defenſible. Here it may be obſerved, that none of the fortifications mentioned by our author, are aſſiſted with either mines or advanced works; ſo that the ſoldiers who are to guard and defend them, cannot be kept to any regular duty; in which caſe a few reſolute battalions, protected by a ſmall ſquadron of ſhips, would have no great difficulty to make themſelves maſters of the very ſtrongeſt of them.

THE naval force of the Algerines hath been ſome years in a declining condition; if we except their rowboats and brigantines; they had A. D. 1732, ſix capital ſhips, from 36 to 50 guns, and at the ſame time had not half that number of experienced officers. A general peace with the three trading nations, and the impoſſibility of keeping up a ſuitable diſcipline, where every private ſoldier diſputes authority with

his officer, are ſome of the principal reaſons why ſo ſmall a number of veſſels are fitted out, and why ſo few perſons of merit are afterwards willing to command them. Their want likewiſe of experience, with the few engagements they have lately been concerned in at ſea, have equally contributed to the diminution of their naval character. However, if by proper diſcipline and encouragement they ſhould once more aſſume their wonted courage and bravery, they have always in readineſs ſuch a quantity of naval ſtores, as will put them in a condition of making conſiderable augmentations to their fleet, though even at preſent, we find them troubleſome enough to the trade of Europe.

THERE is little within the city that merits the attention of the curious; upon the great moſque we have ſome broken inſcriptions, which, though of a ſufficient bigneſs to be ſeen at a diſtance, are all of them filled up to that degree with lime and white waſh, that our author could never particularly diſtinguiſh them.

THEIR public buildings are ſuch as their bagnios, &c. Their officers are, the muf-

ti, cadi, &c. The inhabitants, as Jews and Moors, &c. have been already ſufficiently deſcribed by ſeveral authors. The additions therefore which I have to make, will relate chiefly to the government, the army, and the political intereſts and alliances of this regency; but of thoſe in their proper place.

ALGIERS, from the diſtance and ſituation of it, with reſpect to the Tefeſſad, ſhould be the antient Icoſium, placed in the Itinerary forty-ſeven miles from Tipaſa. Leo and Marmol inform us, that it was formerly called Meſgana, from an African family of that name. The preſent name Al-je-zeire, or Al-je-zeirah (for ſo we ſhall pronounce it) ſignifieth in this language the Iſland, ſo called from being in the neighbourhood of the eaſtern mound of the harbour, which till after the time of the Turkiſh conqueſts, was ſevered from the continent. In their public letters and records they ſtile it the Iſland in the weſt, to diſtinguiſh it from a city of the ſame name near the Dardanelles.

THE hills and valleys round about Algiers, are every where beautified with gar-

dens and country ſeats, where the inhabitants of better faſhion reſide during the ſummer ſeaſon. The country ſeats are little white houſes, ſhaded by a variety of fruit trees, and ever-greens, whereby they afford a gay and delightful proſpect towards the ſea, the gardens are well ſtocked with melons, fruit, and pot-herbs of all kinds; and, what is chiefly regarded in theſe hot climates, each of them enjoys a great command of water, from the many rivulets and fountains which every where preſent themſelves in this ſituation.

THE fountain water made uſe of in Algiers, univerſally eſteemed to be excellent, is likewiſe brought through a long courſe of pipes and conduits, from theſe ſources. Four miles to the S. of Algiers is the river Haratch, which riſes behind the mountains of the Beni Mouſah, and joining the Fig River, runs through the richeſt part of the Mettijiah. It is about half as big as the Maſaffran, and had formerly a bridge built over it at a ſmall diſtance from the ſea. Bleeda and Nedea, the only inland cities of this province, are each of them about a mile in circuit; but their walls being made

up chiefly of mud, perforated in moſt places by the hornet, cannot be preſumed to contribute much to their ſecurity. Some of their houſes are flat roofed, others like thoſe of Maliana, with which they alſo agree in being well watered, and in having all around them very fruitful gardens and plantations.

A BRANCH of an adjacent rivulet may be carried through every houſe and garden at Bleeda, whilſt the ſeveral conduits and aqueducts that ſupply Medea with water, ſome of which appear to have been the work of the Romans, are capable of being made equally commodious. Both theſe cities lie over-againſt the mouth of the Maſaffran, viz. Bleeda at five leagues diſtance, under the ſhade of mount Atlas, and Medea three leagues beyond it, on the other ſide of this mountain.

JURJURA, the higheſt mountain in Barbary, is at leaſt eight leagues long, lying nearly in a N. E. and S. W. direction: it appears to be from one end to another a continued range of naked rocks and precipices, and ſecures by its rugged ſituation, a number of Kabyles from becoming tribu-

tary to the Algerines. Of theſe, the Beni Alia, and the Beni Sittaka are the moſt noted on the N. W. ſide, towards the Benikooſy; as the Beni Yali are to the S. E. towards the Welled Manſoure; on which ſide, near the middle, there is likewiſe a pool of good water, bordered round with arable ground.

The ridge of this mountain is covered with ſnow, and it is very remarkable that the inhabitants of the one ſide ſhould maintain an hereditary and implacable animoſity againſt thoſe of the other; whilſt, by conſent, a little ſnow puts a full ſtop to their hoſtilities, during the winter ſeaſon. Jurjura, as well from its extraordinary ruggedneſs, as from the ſituation of it betwixt Dellys and Boujeiah, ſhould be either the principal part, or the whole of the Mons Ferratus, taken notice of by the geographers of the middle age.

If we return back again to the weſtward, we ſhall find to the ſouthward of mount Atlas, and the Summata, the Arabo Zenage-ra and Boudarna, with their fountains Ras el wed, Dim, and Athreede: theſe tribes poſſeſs a fine country, made up of

hills and valleys; and at Ain Athreede there are the traces of an old city.

EIGHT miles to the S. S. E. of the Boudarna, and at the like diſtance to the S. W. of Medea, are the fruitful diſtricts of Wamre and Amoura, both of them watered by the Harboone. This river is chiefly collected from the fountains of Medea, and near the weſtern banks of it, as it paſſeth through Amoura to join the Shelliffe, there are ſome conſiderable ruins watered by a plentiful fountain.

THE Arabs call them Herba, a name common to other places, and by which they denote ſomething broken up or pillaged. The Burgh Swaary caſtle, in the diſtrict of the Swaary, lieth four leagues to the S. W. of Ain Baſeef, and ten to the ſouthward of Medea. It is a ſmall fort built upon the ſkirts of the Sahara, and was a few years ago one of the frontier garriſons of the Algerines.

THREE leagues to the E. N. E. of the Burgh, is the eaſtern extremity of the Titterie Doſh, as the Turks call the Rock of Titterie, a remarkable ridge of precipices running parallel with the plains of Beni Ha-

leeſa. They are four leagues in length, and are, if poſſible, more rugged than Jurjura. Upon the ſummit of them, there is a large piece of level ground, with only one narrow road leading up to it, where for the greater ſecurity the Welled Eiſa have their granaries. Beyond the Welled Eiſa, are the encampments of the Welled In Anne, the principal Arabs of the diſtrict of Titterie, properly ſo called, which lieth in the neighbourhood only of this mountain.

ANOTHER conſiderable clan, made up of the families of Maithie, Noile, and Melleeke, ſpread themſelves over Getulia, from the Burg Swaary to the mountains of the Amner, thirty-five leagues to the ſouthward of which mountains, begins the country of the Beni Mezzob, a tribe of the ſect of Melaſti, which pays no tribute, its members having been from time immemorial employed in the ſlaughter-houſes of Algiers; but are not permitted to ſet foot in the Moſques: they are more ſwarthy than the people inhabiting Getulia farther to the northward; from whom they are divided by a wide inhoſpitable deſart.

THE next province deſcribed by our author, is Conſtantina, which is more than 230 miles long, and above 100 broad; and the viceroy pays into the treaſury of Algiers between 80 and 100,000 dollars yearly; whereas the Titterie Bey ſcarcely collects more than 12000; and the weſtern Bey from 40 to 50,000. The ſea-coaſt is mountainous and rocky; but no part of the Spaniſh dominions can be diſcovered from them; although Albufedah affirms the contrary.

THE river Booberak is the weſtern boundary of this province, and at a league's diſtance, upon the ſea-coaſt, at the foot of a high mountain, the town of Delly riſes out of the ruins of a large city; where juſt over the harbour in an old wall, is a mutilated ſtatue, which ſeems to have been intended for a Madona; the drapery and features of it are particularly defaced: the inhabitants here complain much of want of water. Twelve leagues S. E. of Dellys, is a noted promontory, crowned with ſome ruins, and called Aſh-oune-mon-kar, five leagues from which, is a rocky iſland, and at a little diſtance a cave, where the Spa-

niſh prieſts, who have been for ages ſettled at Algiers, pretend to affirm, that Raymond Lully, in his African miſſion, uſed frequently to retire to contemplate.

ONE hundred and one Roman miles from Dellys, which is ſuppoſed to be the antient Muſucurium, is Boujeiah, a garriſon, but of ſo little conſequence, that it is perpetually blocked up by the neighbouring tribes, or Kabyles; who raiſe ſtrange diſorders in the neighbourhood, eſpecially on market-days. For though the buſineſs of the market is conducted with great tranquillity, yet no ſooner is it over, than theſe factious clans begin their outrage; and the day ſeldom concludes without ſome flagrant inſtance of their barbarity. The adjacent country furniſhes plenty of wax and oil; and the mountains afford good iron, whence are made mattocks, ploughſhares, and other uſeful implements, in all which the inhabitants drive a conſiderable trade. One has ſome room to imagine Boujeiah more antient than Algiers, becauſe Albufedah particularly mentions the former, but is quite ſilent with regard to the latter; ſo that in his time it was either

not built, or elſe of little or no ſignification. The only remarkable thing here is the tomb of a certain ſaint called Seedy Buſgree, to which there is a good reſort of people. Here was formerly a fine aqueduct for ſupplying the port with water; but this, together with the baſons, walls, &c. are intirely deſtroyed.

THE Europeans call Boujeiah, Bugia; it is built upon the ruins of an old city, in a ſituation much like that of Dellys; but the circuit of it was much larger: great part of the wall is ſtill remaining, which is carried up to the top of the mountain. Here are three caſtles, one on the top of the mountain commanding the city; and two at the bottom to ſecure the port. Sir Edward Spraggs once cannonaded this place, and the marks of his fire are ſtill viſible on the walls of one of the caſtles.

THIRTEEN leagues from Boujeiah, is Ijel, the Igilgie of the antients; leaving which, and paſſing many towns no ways remarkable, as well as ſeveral rivers and rivulets, we arrive at length at the river Zoore, which riſes among the mountains of Beni Welbaan, and being encreaſed in its

courſe through a high craggy tract of land, by ſeveral adventitious ſprings, at length empties itſelf into the ſea, being firſt ſwelled to a very conſiderable river. The clans who dwell upon, and drink of this river, live in caves; and if they eſpy a ſhip at a diſtance in bad weather, myriads of them cover the ſhore, praying to heaven for its deſtruction; and there is no mercy to be expected from them; for they are void of humanity, and ſtrangers to the feelings of pity.

On a neck of land, lying between the rivers Sei-bouſe, and Boojemah, lie the ruins of the antient Hippo, of which St. Auguſtin was biſhop; and a place ſaid to have been his convent is pointed out by the Moors, who make of it a profitable livelihood. It was called Hippo Regits, as well to diſtinguiſh it from Hippo Zarytus, as on account of its having been the reſidence of the kings of Numidia.

We are told by Silius Italicus, that it was a place, of which the kings were very fond; nor is there any thing wonderful in Hippo, if we conſider that this liking was not only ſtrong and well fortified, but

alſo extremely healthful, and well ſituated for trade, commerce, hunting, and diverſion. Beſides a moſt delightful proſpect, the eye here at one view takes in the ſea, a ſpacious harbour, diverſity of mountains loaden with trees, and plains finely watered.

ALL along the coaſt there are many capes, of which it cannot be expected that we ſhould give a particular account; doubling one of them called Roſa, we enter a ſmall creek, where there are the ruins of a fort, which once belonged to a French factory ſettled here, by the African company of France; but the unwholeſomeneſs of the place, and the noiſome damps ariſing from the neighbouring ponds and marſhes, obliged them to remove to La Calle. There is another inlet, three leagues farther E. where theſe gentlemen have a magnificent houſe and gardens, a company of ſoldiers, a good quantity of arms, and ſeveral pieces of ordnance. They command the trade of the whole country, and reap vaſt advantages from the coral fiſhery, in which they conſtantly employ 300 men. They buy up all the corn, wool, hides, and wax,

excluſive of every other perſon or power; and for that privilege pay among the government of Algiers, the Kaide of Bona, and the chiefs of the neighbouring Arabs, upwards of 5000 guineas. Some of the tribes inhabiting theſe ſkirts and frontiers, are tributary to Tunis; and for the moſt part ſavage and inhoſpitable to the laſt degree.

CHAP. III.

Of ſeveral remarkable places, and numerous tribes in the province of Conſtantina, and the neighbouring diſtricts.

FROM the ſea-coaſt up to Seteef and Conſtantina, the country is one continued chain of high hills; the acceſs to which being almoſt impracticable, the inhabitants to the weſtward defying the utmoſt power of the Algiers, pay no tribute to the viceroy. Among thoſe to the E. the Turks have a flying camp during the ſummer ſeaſon, whereby ſome of the Kabyles are reduced to give tokens of homage;

but they are ſo tenacious of their rights, that they ſcarcely vouchſafe to think of it, till compelled thereto by fire and ſword. The proſpect hereabouts is finely varied with hills and dales, and large tracts of land fit for culture; which laſt however fall off, as they approach a long range of mountains, ſuppoſed by Dr. Shaw to be the Buzara of the antients.

THE richeſt and moſt powerful Kabyles in this province are the Zwowah, who poſſeſs a large tract of high impenetrable territory, whence they ſometimes make excurſions to the annoyance of the Turks.

AMONG their many Daſhkaras is the church of the Ciſtern, where there is a college, and the famous ſepulchre of Seedy Hamet Ben Dreeſe. Under their protection are many leſſer clans; alſo under the protection of the Beni Abbeſs, who have their metropolis at a place called Callah. Next to the Kwowah they are the moſt numerous clan in this province, being able to bring 3000 horſe, and 1500 foot ſoldiers into the field; and as they lie directly upon the great road to Conſtantina, they are frequently engaged in war, and laid under

contribution. Whenever they have had the raſhneſs to revolt, their breach of faith has been ſeverely chaſtiſed; for they are ſure to ſuffer moſt, as being the weaker party. At Callay they make excellent fire-arms. Among the mountains of the Beni Abbeſs, there is a narrow defile, which winds for near half a mile, under an exceeding high precipice; it is in ſeveral places croſſed by a rock, through which a paſſage is cut like a door-caſe, about the width of ſix or ſeven feet. Theſe apertures the Arabs call ſimply the gates; but the Turks, in conſideration of their ſtrength and ruggedneſs, give them the additional epithet of iron. Here a handful of men might diſpute the paſſage of a whole army; and indeed there is ſomething horrid in barely going through them.

FARTHER on, there is another dangerous paſs, where the road lies upon a narrow ridge, with deep vallies and yawning precipices on every ſide; ſo that the leaſt deviation from the beaten path muſt be attended with inevitable deſtruction.

THERE are innumerable clans in this tract of mountains, of whom we can ſay

nothing remarkable; they end at Zammorah, where begin the plains of Suderatah. Beyond theſe dwell the tribe of Amner, who ſpread themſelves a great way along the banks of the rivers Kubber-atteah and Booſellam; they are a powerful but infamous clan, openly proſtituting their wives and daughters to every comer. There are many ruins in this diſtrict; but none worth remarking, except thoſe of Seteef, once the metropolis of this part of Mauritania, and the Sitapha of the antients. This city was built upon a riſing ground, about a league in circuit; but the Arabs have deſtroyed all the works of the Romans ſo effectually, that they have ſcarcely left a ſingle fragment of antiquity ſtanding; in the heart of the city there were fountains, which were equally delightful and convenient, and from whence water might have been eaſily diſtributed to every neceſſary quarter.

It is remarkable, that the natives of the coaſt are in general of a ſwarthy complexion, with dark hair; whereas, as you advance to the mountains of Aureſs, you find them fair, or ruddy, and yellow haired: hence one may conjecture, that they are

ſome remains of the Vandals, who united among theſe mountains in bands.

THE Hummum Meſkouteen, or Inchanted Baths, which lie among ſome other mountains at a diſtance, are worth a viſit from ſuch perſons as chance to travel this way. The fountains whence they are filled, are intenſely hot; and there are ſome ſprings near the river Zenoti, into which they all empty themſelves, that are as cold in extremes. There are a few houſes built on the banks of the river for the benefit of ſuch as come hither to uſe the water.

THE next place which we ſhall ſpeak of, is Conſtantina, otherwiſe Certa, which is forty-eight Roman miles from the ſea, and in hiſtory reckoned to have been once one of the ſtrongeſt and chiefeſt cities in Numidia. It is about a mile in circumference, but ending to the northward in a precipice of at leaſt a hundred fathom perpendicular.

IN this direction there is a beautiful landſkip, ariſing from a variety of mountains and rivers extending far away.

To the eaſtward, the proſpect is bounded by an adjacent range of rocks, much

higher than the city; but towards the S. E. the country is more open, preſenting a diſtant view of the mountains of Seedy Rougeiſe; and the peninſular promontory of Eiganh is ſeparated from the neighbouring plains, by a deep narrow valley, perpendicular on both ſides, through which runs the river; and here was formerly a bridge of excellent workmanſhip.

THE neck of land to the S. W. near which ſtood the principal gate of the city, is about the breadth of half a furlong, being entirely covered with a ſeries of broken walls, ciſterns, and other ruins, which are continued quite down to the river; and carried on from thence, over a ſtrip of plain ground, that runs parallel with the deep narrow valley already deſcribed.

SUCH was the ſituation and extent of the antient Cirta; but the preſent city hath not the ſame dimenſions.

BESIDES the general traces of diverſity of ruins ſcattered over this place, there are ſtill remaining near the centre of the city, that particular ſet of ciſterns, which perhaps received the waters brought thither from Phiſgeah by an aqueduct. They are

twenty in number, making an area of fifty yards ſquare.

THE aqueduct is ſtill in a more ruinous condition than the ciſterns; however, the fragments which have continued down to this time, ſufficiently demonſtrate the public ſpirit of the antient inhabitants. Upon the brink of the precipice to the northward, there are the remains of a large and magnificent edifice, where the Turkiſh garriſon is lodged at preſent. Four of the baſes, each ſeven feet in diameter, with their reſpective pedeſtals, are ſtill in their places, and ſeem to have appertained to the portico; they are of a black ſtone, little inferior to marble, hewn in all probability out of that very range of rocky precipices, upon which they are founded. The ſide-poſts of the principal gate of the city, which are of a beautiful reddiſh ſtone, not inferior to marble, are very neatly moulded, and an altar of pure white marble makes part of a neighbouring wall; the ſide of which in view, preſents us with a well-ſhaped Simpulum, in a bold relief.

THE gate towards the S. E. is of the ſame faſhion, though much ſmaller; and

lying open to the bridge, mentioned to have been built over this part of the valley. The bridge was a maſter-piece in its kind; having had the gallery and the columns of the arches adorned with feſtoons, ox-heads, and garlands. The key-ſtones likewiſe of the arches are charged with Caducei, and other figures: betwixt the two principal arches, in a ſtrong well executed relief, is the figure of a lady, treading upon two elephants, with a large ſcollop-ſhell for her canopy. The elephants having their faces turned towards each other, twiſt their trunks together; and the lady, who appears dreſſed with a cloſe-bodied garment, like the riding-habit of our times, and no covering on her head, raiſes up her petticoats with her right hand, and looks ſcornfully upon the city: this groupe, in any other ſituation, might be ſuppoſed to belong to ſome fountain, it being well known, that they were ſometimes laid out in ſuch ludicrous and wanton deſigns.

Below the bridge, the river Rummel begins to run in a northward direction, in which it continues for about a quarter of a mile, through a ſubterranean paſſage, which

nature ſeems providently to have prepared for its waters, ſince otherwiſe they muſt have here formed a prodigious lake, and overflowed the country before they found a paſſage to the ſea.

AMONG a parcel of ruins to the S. W. of the bridge, there are the remains of a triumphal arch called the Giant; it conſiſts of three arches, the moſt ſpacious of which is the middlemoſt, which has on each ſide pilaſters of the Corinthian order, and is embelliſhed with carvings of flowers, battle-axes, and other neat ornaments. Under the precipice lie luke-warm ſprings, called Marabbutt Seedy Meamon, after a ſaint of that name, who lies near at hand interred; and a quarter of a mile to the eaſt, the Rummel falls from its ſubterranean paſſage in a fine caſcade; and criminals are to this day precipitated into the river from that part of the city, which here lies above it. A little way beyond the caſcade is a neat clear fountain, full of tortoiſes.

LEAVING Conſtantina to the N. and N. W. you enter upon a diſtrict the moſt extenſive, as well as the moſt fertile in all Numidia; it is peopled by a gallant tribe

called Henneiſhah, who have often been of ſignal ſervice to the Algerines.

THIS whole country is finely watered, and was once thickly interſperſed with towns and villages, of which the only remaining veſtiges are heaps of rubbiſh, without name or inſcription to determine what they have been.

THE midland boundary of this kingdom is the river Seratt, the waters of which are brackiſh, and diſcharge themſelves into the Me-jerdah. Near the weſtern banks of it, upon a high pointed mountain, which can be approached only by one narrow road, is a conſiderable village called Callah, which, on account of the ſtrength of its ſituation, ſerves as a refuge for the villains and outcaſts of Algiers and Tunis; and here they commonly remain till they have either compounded for their crimes, or otherwiſe procured themſelves pardon. One of the moſt remarkable frontier towns of the Algerines is Tipſa, or Tibeſſa; it has an Algerine garriſon, and ſhews ſome marks of antiquity; the ſituation is very fine, and rendered ſtill more agreeable by ſome mountains at a diſtance.

THE capital of Zaab is called Biſcara; here is a Turkiſh garriſon, lodged in a ſmall caſtle lately built by the Bey of Conſtantina; and the chief ſtrength of it lies in ſix pieces of ordnance, and a few unwieldy muſkets mounted alſo upon carriages.

ALL over this province the footſteps of the Romans may be traced by broken inſcriptions, and mouldering monuments that have partly eſcaped the fury of the Arabs; and ſome ſtone-coffins have been lately dug up near the village of Banteaſe. The inhabitants of Zaab are to this day fond of eating dogs fleſh, for which the Carthaginians were once remarkable; and hence are they called Canarii. Having thus as briefly as poſſible run over a ſhort deſcription of the moſt remarkable places, and the moſt noted tribes in the kingdom of Algiers; we ſhall proceed with our author through Tunis; and then take a ſhort view of the ſtate of theſe kingdoms together, conſidered not only in regard to the temperature of the climate, but alſo with reſpect to their legiſlative conſtitution, and political intereſts.

CHAP. IV.

Of the kingdom of Tunis in general, and the moſt remarkable places in the ſummer circuit deſcribed.

THE kingdom of Tunis is, according to the moſt accurate computation, about 220 miles broad, and 170 long; on the S. it is bounded by Tripoli; on the W. by Algiers; and it is waſhed by the Mediterranean Sea on the E. and N. Sbekkah, the moſt weſtern city of this dominion, lies in 8d. W. long. from London; and Clybea, the moſt eaſtern in 11 d. 20m. E. long.

TUNIS is not divided into provinces like Algiers, but into the ſummer and winter circuit; ſo called from the Bey's aſſigning each of theſe ſeaſons to a viſit into a particular diſtrict, where his perſon is neceſſary to collect the tribute. In ſummer his journey is through the fertile country that lies in the neighbourhood of Keff and Baijah; in winter he travels between Cairwan and

Jaraide; and theſe two diviſions, according to which we ſhall deſcribe this kingdom, correſpond nearly to the Regio Keugitana, and the Bizacium of the antients.

The ſummer circuit is better inhabited than any part of the neighbouring kingdoms of the like bigneſs, and has a greater number of cities, villages, &c. The people are alſo more chearful, more affluent, and kinder, becauſe, perhaps the government is leſs ſevere and oppreſſive. It is in general pretty fruitful; but the fertility is interrupted by hills, marſhes, and rugged plains, that will admit of no cultivation; nor of any manner of improvement.

In the river Zaine, which waters this part of the country, lies the ſmall iſland of Ta-barka, which the Genoeſe rent from the regency; but the coral fiſhing, which was their chief motive to this ſettlement, failing conſiderably, it is not probable, that they will chuſe to keep the poſſeſſion long. They have, however, built a good fort, of force ſufficient to protect them from the incurſions of the lawleſs Arabs, as well as from the inſults of the cruiſing veſſels of Tunis, Algiers, and Tripoli.

FIVE leagues to the N. E. is cape Negro, where the French African company have fortified a ſettlement; for which, and the immunities they enjoy, they pay a conſiderable ſum of money to the regency of Tunis.

UPON a canal, betwixt an extenſive lake and the ſea, lies the city of Bizerta, eight miles from cape Blanco, which is diſtant from cape Negro nine leagues. It is about a mile round, and defended, more eſpecially towards the ſea, by ſeveral caſtles and batteries. The lake has a communication with the ſea, into which it empties itſelf with a forceable and diſcernable ſtream, when the wind is at ſouth. On the contrary, when the wind is northerly, the waters of the ſea flow briſkly up the lake.

THE channel of communication between the lake and the ſea, is the port of Hippo, which is ſtill capable of receiving ſmall veſſels; and was once not only one of the ſafeſt, but alſo one of the moſt beautiful havens upon the coaſt. Here was a large pier which ran out far into the ſea, and thereby deſtroyed the force of the north winds; however, the Turks have let that

and ſome other improvements run to ruins; and thus is a haven deſtroyed, which in other hands would be an ineſtimable treaſure. Bizerta abounds with fiſh, fruit, corn, pulſe, oil, and various other productions.

From the gulph of Bizerta there is an extenſive proſpect of olive plantations, and very beautiful groves; it is bounded by a high ridge of rocks; the eaſtern extremity of which, high and pointed, as well as remarkably white, is called Pil-loe, after a favourite diſh of the Turks, which it is thought to reſemble. And four leagues to the N. N. W. are two ſmall flat iſlands, called the Cani, near which the Italian rowboats lie frequently in wait for the Tuniſian cruizers.

Upon the ſide of a ſpacious navigable baſon, formed by the river Mejerdah, lies Porto Farina; where ſome years ſince, there was a conſiderable city; the place is, at preſent, only remarkable for its beautiful Cothon, which contains the navy of Tunis, and is ſafe from the weather.

The Mejerdah waters, with a meandring ſtream, a rich fertile country, and like the Nile, makes encroachments upon

the ſea, by heaping mud and filth together in different places, that become thereby dry land; thus it is often driven out of its old to ſeek a new channel. This is the famous Bagrada of hiſtory, on the banks of which Regulus is ſaid to have killed a monſtrous ſerpent, which Pliny tells us, was 120 feet long.

It is certain that Utica lay ſomewhere in this direction; but we ſhall not be able to fix its exact ſituation, unleſs we allow that the ſea has been driven back for three or four miles by the eaſterly winds, and the encreaſe of mud; and this point once granted, we may juſtly place that ſmall but celebrated city at Boo-ſhater, where are many traces of noble and extenſive buildings, magnificent ciſterns, and a large aqueduct. This place is twenty-ſeven Roman miles from Carthage.

This very celebrated city is the next to be deſcribed, and has undergone ſome of the ſame changes with reſpect to the ſea, as thoſe ſuſtained by Utica; for its old harbour is at preſent choaked up, and the ſea has retired to ſome diſtance.

There are no triumphal arches, no pic-

ces of curious architecture to be ſeen now, whereby one might be able to aſcertain the identity of this famous place, which was once the rival of old Rome. It was built upon three hills, of an indifferent height, and had a variety of ciſterns, which have eſcaped the general ruin rather better than any other public buildings. Near the greater ciſterns are the ruins of an antient and celebrated aqueduct, which was certainly a work of extraordinary labour, and beautifully faced with hewn ſtone.

ALMOST every houſe was furniſhed with a ciſtern for ſaving water; and at Sakarah, whither the ſuburbs probably extended, there is a continuation of channels ſo contrived, as to admit water by percolation. It would be difficult to determine what extraordinary ſupplies the ciſterns might have afforded; but it is certain, that at Algiers, a city furniſhed now with the ſame conveniences that Carthage was formerly, the rain-water is ſeldom or never ſufficient to ſupply the wants of the people: in Carthage it muſt have been much leſs ſo, if we conſider the number of horſes, elephants, and other animals, which were moreover to be maintained.

EIGHT miles W. S. W. of the cape of Carthage, there is the Guletta, a ſmall channel that joins the lake of Tunis to the ſea; and it is on each ſide guarded by a pretty tolerable caſtle. The lake was formerly large enough to admit a numerous fleet of ſhips; but now in ſummer time the main channel of it is ſcarcely more than ſix or ſeven feet deep; and for the ſpace of a mile or more within the banks, it is nauſeous and dry, being filled up by the common ſhores of Tunis. In this lake are caught the largeſt and beſt mullets that are to be found upon the coaſt of Barbary: the roes of them when preſſed and dried are called Botargo, and eſteemed a great rarity.

TUNIS, the capital of this kingdom, is three miles round, but not ſo populous as Algiers; neither are the houſes ſo ſpacious and magnificent: it lies on the weſtern banks of the lake, having Carthage full in ſight; and if viewed from the ſea, it appears ſurrounded with chalky cliffs; whence, perhaps Diodorus Siculus calls it Tunis the white: the air is healthful and fragrant, being much purified by the maſ-

tick, myrtle, roſemary, and other aromatick plants uſed here in the ovens or bagnios. Were it not for this, the place would be more unwholeſome than it is; for tho' it lies on an eminence, it is not above the influence of the vapours riſing from the marſhes that ſurround it. And if we except a ſcarcity of good water, their wells being all brackiſh, we ſhall find here plenty of all the neceſſaries of life. The Tuniſians are the moſt civilized race among the Barbarians; they are more intent upon trade than rapine, and are fond of cultivating the friendſhip of Chriſtians. The ſanctuary of Seedy Doude lies at ſome diſtance from Tunis; it takes its name from Doude or David, a Mooriſh ſaint, whoſe ſepulchre is here ſhewn five yards in length; however, that this venerable ſtructure was no more than a *prætorium Romanum* appears plain to the learned from three contiguous pieces of Moſaic pavement, wrought with great ſymmetry and proportion: the figures are horſes, trees, birds, and fiſhes; the inlaying is very fine, and the colours ſo beautiful, that they may be ſet on a footing with tolerable good paint-

ing: the horſe hereon repreſented, is in the ſame bold attitude given to that noble animal in the Carthaginian banners; the birds, are the hawk and partridge; the fiſhes, the mullet and gilt-head; the trees, the palm and olive. The deſigner perhaps meant them as ſymbols: thus, for example, the horſe is the ſymbol of ſtrength; the palm and olive, imply peace and plenty, &c. All around are the ruins of the antient Niſua or Miſua, where there was once a ſafe and capacious harbour for ſhipping: a few leagues further on, there are ſeveral antique fragments, not at all remarkable, at a place now called Lowharea; here ſtood the antient Aquilaria, where Curio landed thoſe troops that were afterwards cut in pieces by Sabura. It is a village ſituated half a mile from the ſea, and in the way between them is a mountain hollowed with great art from the level of the ſea to the height of near thirty feet, and ſupported by pillars and arches, left to that end ſtanding: in ſome places it is perforated quite through, for the free admiſſion of air. Theſe are the quarries mentioned by Strabo, from which the ſtone

was dug up which was uſed in building Carthage, Utica, and other adjacent cities. No body can have a better idea of this mountain and the cave formed within it, than Virgil preſents us with, in the following lines of the Æneid; which, in doctor Shaw's opinion, were intended as an actual deſcription of this very ſpot.

Eſt in ſeceſſu longo locus: Inſula portum,
Efficit objecta laterum: quibus omnis ab alto
Frangitur; inque ſinus ſcindit ſeſe unda reductos.
Hinc atque hinc vaſtæ rupes, geminique minantur
In cœlum ſcopuli quorum ſub vertice late
Æquora tuta ſilente tum ſylvis ſcena coruſcis
Deſuper, horrentique atrum nemus imminet umbra.
Fronte ſub adverſa ſcopulis pendentibus atrum:
Intus aquæ dulces; vivoque ſedilia ſaxo.
Nympharum domus.

Cape Bon, by the antients called the Promontory of Mercury, lies a league to the northward; and from the top of this promontory the hills of Sicily may be plainly

diſcerned in fair weather. Five leagues E. and by S. of Cape Bon, is Tophitis, a ſmall promontory, whereon once ſtood the city of Clubea, or Clypea; ſo called from its having been built in the ſhape of a ſhield. Scarcely the ruins of it are now remaining; there is indeed a caſtle, but of a modern ſtructure, and at a mile off a parcel of miſerable hovels, bearing the name of Clybea. Maſaniſſa was drowned as he fled from Bocchar, in a river a little to the ſouthward; the bottom lies far under the ſurface of the water, and the croſſing is precarious. In the open fields, on the oppoſite ſhore, Bocchar killed forty-ſix out of fifty perſons that were the companions of Maſaniſſa's flight.

Seven leagues S. W. and by W. of Clybea, is Gurba, a place of ſome importance in former times: the port, which was a good one, was deſtroyed by the ſea; a fate in which, alſo, the port of the neighbouring city of Nabal ſhared. Some traces of each may, in calm weather, be ſeen under water. Nabal is famous for its potteries, and the people ſeem to be warmed with a ſpirit of induſtry. It lies

in a low ſituation about a mile from the ſea-ſhore, and a furlong weſt of the antient Neapolis; through which runs a ſmall brook, on the banks of which there is a curious baſſo-relievo of a wolf, wrought upon white marble. From hence you proceed through a delightful avenue of ſpreading olives for the ſpace of two leagues to Hamam-et, a ſmall wealthy city, built upon a low promontory, and naturally well fortified: it is not many years ſince this became a place of note; here and there you may meet with ſome blocks of marble, and the town takes its name from the multitudes of wild pigeons that breed in the neighbouring cliffs, Hamam ſignifying a wild pigeon.

NEAR the ſea, at the diſtance of two leagues, is the Menarah, a mauſoleum of a cylindrical form, twenty yards in diameter; on each cornice of the pedeſtal is a ſmall altar, with a man's name inſcribed thereon, and underneath it is a vault: the Moors ſuppoſe that lamps were formerly affixed to theſe altars, as a guidance to mariners.

FERADEESE is but a few miles off; it was

an old Roman city, and the inhabitants, about a century ſince, were the beſt cruizers and the moſt experienced mariners in the country; but they left this place to ſettle at Hamam-et, as the commerce of the latter encreaſes in eſteem. About the middle of the plain there is a round hillock, formed on the ruins of ſome old caſtle or village: it is called Sel-loome. Two leagues further off, to the ſeaward, there is a piece of marſhy ground extending about a furlong; through which a large lake takes its courſe, in its progreſs to the ſea. Here once ſtood a bridge with a cauſeway, which was very convenient, being continued quite through the moraſs: it was in all probability the maritime boundary between the Zeugitania and Bizacium.

FIFTY miles from Utica is the city of Baja, the Vacca of Salluſt, and ſtill a place of great trade, and the greateſt mart for corn in the whole kingdom of Tunis. It lies on the ſlope of a hill, is well watered, and boaſts a citadel of no great ſtrength. A fair, which is well frequented by the Arabs, is kept below in the plains of Buſdera, upon the banks of the river Mejer-

dah. Here we find a ſmall pleaſant town, inhabited by Andaluſian Moors: it lies ſix leagues weſt of Tunis, and is called Tuburbo: in the neighbourhood of it are ſeveral groves of fruit trees; each ſpecies planted by itſelf. Thus, in one ſpot flouriſhes the citron, at ſome diſtance the peach, here the juicy nectarine tempts the taſte, and there the mellow apricot preſents itſelf to the hand; an orange grove on one hand delights the eye, while it diffuſes through the air a moſt grateful odour; on the other, the bluſhing apple repays with intereſt the planter's labour.

THEY have all their diſtinct plantations, and none of them intermixed with any fruit of a different ſpecies. This regular variety was the work of a late Bey, called Mahomet; as was alſo a large dam, flung over the Majerdah, furniſhed with ſluices and floodgates to raiſe the river to a convenient height, for the ſake of refreſhing the neighbouring plantations: but this was too uſeful a ſtructure to meet with proper reſpect in Barbary; it is now running faſt to ruin, and many parts of it actually deſtroyed by time, through neglect.

TEN leagues S. W. of Tunis, on the E. ſide of Majerdah, is an old triumphal arch, in which there is nothing remarkably beautiful; it was once adorned with niches and feſtoons that are now entirely defaced.

AT ſome leagues diſtance, on the extremity of a ſmall chain of hills, are ſeveral mauſolea, and the portico of a temple finely adorned with fluted columns; and on the pediment of this ſtructure there is a large figure of an eagle with expanded wings. On the declivity of a hill, twenty-four leagues W. S. W. of Tunis, riſes a rich ſtrong town called Keff; it is well ſupplied with water, and had a good caſtle about nine years ſince; the beſt part of which was demoliſhed in the civil wars. The only remains of antiquity at Tubernoke are a noble pair of ſtag's horns wrought in baſſo-relievo, and fixed over the gate of a large edifice. Tubernoke is built in form of a creſcent, between the ridges of a mountain that are farfrom being unfruitful; it was called by Pliny, Oppidum Tuburnicenſe; and Tunis lies to the S. S. W. ſeven leagues off.

JERAADO is a ruined city that ſtood on

the decline of a hill twelve leagues S. W. of Tubernoke, and has ſome trifling remains of antiquity. There is a conſpicuous mountain in this circuit, from whence there is a proſpect of immenſe extent on every ſide; and all that ſpace of ground which lies to the northward of the parallel of this mountain, reckoning from the foot of it, is called Africa: the name of it is Zow-ran or Zag-wan; and on the extremity of it is a ſmall flouriſhing town, bearing the ſame denomination, famous for dying ſcarlet caps and bleaching linen, great quantities being brought hither from all parts of the kingdom for that purpoſe. Upon an old gate of this city there is a carving of a ram's head armed, with the word *auxilio* inſcribed under it; from whence we may infer, that the place was ſacred to Jupiter Ammon, whom Lucan diſtinguiſhes by the *tortis cornibus*.

CHAP. V.

A deſcription of the moſt remarkable places in the winter circuit of Tunis.

MANY authors who have written accounts of this part of the world entertain us with ſtories of its fertility, that appear upon inſpection to be much exaggerated; for the ſoil is for the moſt part dry and ſandy, and no where does it extend to any depth.

THIRTY miles from Hamam-et by land lies Herkla, the Heraclea of the lower empire: it is about a mile in circuit, and from the ruins appears rather to have been a place of importance than of extent, being built upon a promontory. Between Herkla and Hamam-et lies a gulph called the Gulph of Herkla. The navigation of it is pretty ſafe, being free from rocks and ſhallows, and affording the ſhelter of two or three good ports, in caſe of bad weather. The adjacent country is low and

marſhy, conſequently the air is liable to fogs; but our author does not think it unwholeſome, though it ſeems to be the ſame with the Hadar or peſtilentious city of the learned Scaliger. The next remarkable place upon the coaſt is Suſa, a very conſiderable city, where the inhabitants drive a great trade in oil and linens. The many granite pillars and other monuments of grandeur ſtanding here to this day, ſhew it once to have been a place of ſome repute, and probably it was one of the towns that ſubmitted to Cæſar in his march to Ruſpina. Near at hand is a briſk tranſparent rivulet, watering a pleaſant valley; this is a conveniency much wanted at Sahaleel, a village lying like Suſa upon an eminence, and ſupplied by a few wells with water, which is not only indifferent but very ſcarce. Five miles off, in a parrallel line, is a neat thriving city called Mcnaſteer, bordering on a ſmall cape, and not ſeeming to lay any claim to antiquity. It commands the bay of Lempta, which was probably the northern mound of the Cothon, great part of which ſtill remains, in ſpite of the delapidations of time, and

the incroachments of the ocean. It was built like the walls of Tlem-ſan, in frames, being a mixture of pebbles and mortar ſo firmly compacted as to be more durable than rock.

MEDEA, which alſo lies upon the coaſt, was once a place of ſome conſequence. The area of the port is an hundred yards ſquare: it lies within the very walls of the city, but is at preſent too ſhallow for veſſels even of a trifling burthen. Here are ſome tumbling capitals and entablatures, which, though much defaced, ſpeak the founder to have been more ſkilful than Mahdi the firſt patriarch of Kairwan, who is ſaid by Leo to be the perſon. Somewhere hereabouts was the tower or country ſeat where Hannibal embarked after his flight from Carthage.

ELALIA is a large extent of ruins, ſituated on the borders of a fertile plain, which reaches from Salecto to within a few miles of She-ah. Peculiar to this place there are ſeveral large ciſterns, with areas to receive rain water, which, from the workmanſhip and contrivance, appear to have been formed ſince the invaſion of the Saracens.

CAPOUDIA is a ſtrip of land ſtretching a great way into the ſea; and upon the extreme point of it there is a high watch-tower, ſurrounded with ruins that very probably formerly belonged to a city built here by Juſtinian.

FROM this cape to the iſland of Jerba there is a ſucceſſion of ſhallows or ſmall flat iſlands, among which the inhabitants, wading a mile or two from ſhore, fix hurdles, and therein catch large quantities of fiſh, of which they make conſiderable advantage.

OUR author obſerves in this place, that, according to report, the water ſometimes riſes at Jerba, perhaps twice a day, a fathom or more above its uſual height; but the wind blowing ſtrong from the eaſt, while he coaſted along this ſhore, prevented him from aſcertaining this report as truth.

ASFAX is a neat thriving city, walled round. The inhabitants are induſtrious, and labour under none of thoſe oppreſſions felt in other parts of Barbary. The materials uſed in building it were brought ten miles off from the Thena of the an-

tients, once a famous maritime city, the country about which is dry and barren, without the refreſhment of a ſingle rivulet. There is a brook five miles to the S. W. called the river of Thainee.

At Ma-hareſs, which is a ſmall village, there are the ruins of a caſtle, and ſome ciſterns ſaid to have been built by Sultan Ben Eglib, whoſe memory the people highly reſpect, as having done many good actions, and left behind him ſeveral publick marks of his beneficence, as, the caſtle of Ungha, built to ſecure ſome good wells, the adjacent country being a moraſs, and that at a greater diſtance only fit for paſturage, and great part of it entirely barren. Four leagues farther S. W. there are a great number of ſepulchres at a place called Ellamaite; but they have no inſcriptions, and very little beauty. At Gabs, a new city, riſing from the remains of an old one bearing the ſame name, where there are many fine ſquare granite pillars, no where elſe to be found in this quarter of the world, there are large plantations of palms and dates, but inferior every way to thoſe of Jiceed; and the alhenna plant

is alſo cultivated in the gardens hereabouts, the leaves of which dried and powdered are a good commodity. As this plant requires to be well watered, the river Triton is brought hither for that purpoſe through many artificial canals. This river, now called the Gabs, was better known by the name of the Triton to the antients.

QUITTING the ſea-coaſt, and taking an inland courſe, we arrived in a ſhort time at Hadrah, which lies in a valley, and is watered by pleaſant rivulets. From the vaſt extent of its ruins this place appears to have been one of the moſt conſiderable places in the country; for the walls of many houſes, ſeveral altars and mauſolea, together with the pavement of a whole ſtreet, are ſtill to be ſeen. The mauſolea are of various figures, ſome of them octagonal, ſupported by four, ſix, or eight columns; others ſquare, with a nich or a balcony at top. The inſcriptions with which they have been formerly graced have been defaced, either by time, or the malice of the Arabs. Among other ruins here is a beautiful triumphal arch erected in honour of Severus Pertinax, but no mention is

made of the perſon by whom it was conſtructed.

THE ſecond remarkable place found here is Kair-wan, a populous city, walled in, and carrying on ſome trade: it lies in a barren plain. Without the walls, at half a furlong's diſtance, there is a capacious ciſtern to receive rain water; but the former either drying up or putrifying in the heat of ſummer, cauſes agues and other diſtempers. Here are ſome fine remains of antient architecture, and a moſque ſupported by five hundred granite pillars, ſaid to be the moſt magnificent ſtructure of that kind in Barbary, and deemed the moſt ſacred. All the inſcriptions being defaced, one cannot arrive at the antient name of this city.

AT Spaitla, the antient Sufetula, among other mouldering ruins, there is a grand triumphal arch of the Corinthian order, conſiſting of one large arch, and two ſmaller ones on each ſide; and from it all the way to the city there is a black ſtone pavement, guarded on each ſide by a parapet wall for the more convenient paſſage of him who triumphed: at the end of the

pavement you paſs through a ſpacious Corinthian portico into a noble area, where you find three ruined temples, with many pediments and entablatures remaining perfect and entire; but the roofs and porticos being quite deſtroyed, fronting the portico of each there is a nich, behind which nich in the middle fane is a ſmall chamber, which was perhaps uſed as a veſtry. Spaitla is pleaſantly ſituated upon a riſing-ground, ſhaded with juniper trees, and watered on the N. E. by a little rivulet.

EIGHT leagues to the weſtward, at Turzo or Truzza, there are ſeveral vaulted chambers perpetually filled with ſulphureous ſteams, much frequented by the Arabs for the ſake of ſweating. The river Meegaleel waters the neighbouring country, and the Arabs contrive to make it overflow many large tracts of land, which are ſeldom or never refreſhed by rain. On the banks of this river, a few miles to the ſouth of Truzza, are the ruins of a large city.

SIX leagues to the S. W. of Spaitla, on a precipice that overhangs the winding ri-

ver Derb, there is a large arch of Attic ſtructure, ſupported by gothic pillars, and adorned with deſigns in the Corinthian faſhion; it was built by Manlius Fælix: and in the plain below there are many mauſolea, upon one of which there is an inſcription in hexameters and pentameters; but we ſhall not copy them here, being no way remarkable. There are many other towns and villages ſcattered round the country, which is open and champaign, and olive plantations interſperſed up and down render them extremely delightful.

At Jemme, the Tiſtra of Cæſar, which lies ſome leagues S. S. W. of Sur-ſeff, are many antiquities, as, altars with defaced inſcriptions, a variety of columns, and a ſpacious amphitheatre; but Mahomet Bey blew up four of the arches from top to bottom, in a late revolt of the Arabs, who made uſe of it as a fortreſs; otherwiſe, as to the outſide at leaſt, nothing could be more entire and beautiful. Within, the platform of the ſeats, with their galleries and vomitoria leading up to them, are ſtill remaining. The arena is nearly circular, and in the centre of it there is a deep well

of hewn ſtone, where the pillar that ſupported the awning may be ſuppoſed to have been fixed. By comparing this with our ſtructures at Spaitla, Hydrah, &c. it ſeems to have been built about the time of the Antonines, agreeing exactly in proportion and workmanſhip with the ſtructures of that age: and as the elder Gordian was proclaimed emperor in this city, it is not improbable but out of gratitude to the place where he received the diadem, he might have founded a city. Upon one of the medals of the younger Gordian we have an amphitheatre, not hitherto accounted for by the medaliſts: it may be too peremptory perhaps to fix it upon Tiſdra.

At Rugga, the antient Caraga, two leagues S. S. E. of Jemme, is a large ciſtern, which formerly ſupplied the whole city with water, and the roof of it is ſupported by rows of maſſy pillars.

Ferre-nah, which from its lonely ſituation, and other circumſtances, was probably the Thala of the antients, lies in the ſame parallel with Rugga, and was once the largeſt city of Bizacium; though all

the remains of its antient grandeur conſiſt in a few granite and other pillars, which, by ſome extraordinary chance or benevolence of the Arabs, are ſtanding upon their pedeſtals. It hath been exceedingly well watered, for, beſides a plentiful brook that runs under the walls, there have been ſeveral wells within the city, each of them ſurrounded with a corridore, and vaulted over with a cupola. This, and a good air, are the only benefits and conveniencies that Ferre-nah can urge in favour of its ſituation; for, if we except a ſmall extent of ground to the ſouthward, which the inhabitants cultivate, by refreſhing it at proper times with the rivulet, all the reſt of this circumjacent country is dry, barren, and inhoſpitable; the proſpect likewiſe (which is the only one it enjoys) to the weſtward, terminateth upon ſome naked precipices; or elſe, where the eye hath liberty to wander through ſome narrow cliff or valley, we are entertained with no other view than of a deſert ſcorched up with perpetual drought, and glowing with the ſun-beams. Gafsa, the antient Capſa, another of the ſtrong cities of Jugurtha,

lies twelve leagues off. It is built in a ſolitary ſituation, on a riſing-ground, in the midſt of mountains: the proſpect about it is however ſometimes enlivened by piſtachias, olives, palm, and other fruits, which are refreſhed by a ſtream collected from two fountains, the one in the centre of the city, and the other in the citadel: the former is ſtill walled round, and diſcharges itſelf into a large baſon contrived for bathing. Theſe two fountains uniting form a ſtream, which the inhabitants partition out among their plantations. There are many altars and granite pillars among the walls of the houſes and the citadel, which, when in their proper places, muſt have been great ornaments to the place; but the inſcriptions upon them are for the moſt part defaced.

The villages of El Jereed, or the Dry country, which is the next quarter whereon we enter, are built of mud walls, with rafters of palm: among them may be ſometimes found granite pillars, and here and there a Roman inſcription. They have a general trade in dates, which they exchange for wheat, barley, linen, and other

commodities, brought from all contiguous parts. The dates of Tozer are moſt eſteemed, and they are exported to Æthiopia, where they are exchanged for black ſlaves, two or three quintals being the purchaſe of a ſlave. The villages hereabouts are divided by a lake, and pointed out by a number of trunks of palm trees, fixed at convenient diſtances for the direction of caravans; hence is this road called the lake of Marks. Were it not for theſe ſure guides, the quickſands and chaſms would make the paſſage extremely difficult, it being from eaſt to weſt twenty leagues long, and in ſome places ſix leagues broad. In this lake are many dry ſpots or iſlands, one of which is large, and covered with dates; theſe, according to a tradition among the Arabs, ſprung from the ſtones of that fruit which an Egyptian army brought hither with them, and planted for the ſake of nouriſhment.

From Maggs to El-hammah the diſtance is thirty miles, over an uncomfortable deſert, without either wood or water. El-hammah is one of the Tuniſian frontier towns: it is antient, having a ſmall caſtle,

and a garriſon, and takes its name from the hot baths for which it is remarkable. They are poorly thatched; the baſons are for the moſt part ſheltered from the weather by an indifferent thatch, and twelve feet ſquare, four deep, with ſtone benches running round them for bathers to repoſe on. One of them is called the Bath of Lepers, and a neighbouring lake the Lake of Lepers. The waters of theſe fountains form a ſmall ſtream, that rolls eaſtward towards the lake of Marks, and loſes itſelf at a few miles diſtance in the ſand.

It is needleſs and uninſtructing to detain the reader with the various hard names whereby the different clans of Arabs inhabiting this tract of land are diſtinguiſhed; wherefore we ſhall proceed to take a view of the accommodation travellers muſt expect to meet in this country, according to our author; and then give a ſketch of his general obſervations.

CHAP. VI.

Of the manner of travelling in the territories of Barbary.

IN the inland towns and villages of Barbary there is a houſe generally ſet apart for the reception of ſtrangers, with a proper officer called the Mahabak, whoſe buſineſs it is to attend them: here perſons are lodged and entertained for one night, in the beſt manner the place can afford, at the expence of the community.

EXCEPT at Tripoli, Algiers, Alexandria, and ſome few places beſides, there are no Khans or houſes of entertainment throughout the whole country, at leaſt that our author met with; and to have furniſhed themſelves with tents would have been both cumberſome and expenſive, beſides the ſuſpicion it might have raiſed in the Arabs that they were perſons of rank and fortune, conſequently a booty too rich and tempting to be ſuffered to eſcape. Some

unfortunate gentlemen, who were engaged not many years ago in an embaſſy to Abyſſinia, found this aſſertion to be true, at the expence of their lives. Thus, in the courſe of their travelling, when Dr. Shaw and his company did not fall in with the hovels of the Kabyles, or the encampments of the Arabs, they had nothing to protect them from the heat of the day, or the cold of the night, unleſs they met with ſome accidental grove of trees, the ſhelf of a rock, or ſometimes, by good fortune, a grotto.

THEIR beaſts were the greateſt ſufferers, though they were always the firſt care of our travellers, who gathered ſtubble, graſs, boughs of trees, and ſuch like provender for them, before they ſat down themſelves to examine into what fragments of former meals they had reſerved for themſelves. In travelling from Cairo to Mount Sinai, the heavens were every night their only covering; a carpet ſpread upon the ſand their bed, and a bundle of foul cloaths their pillow. Horſes or mules require too much water to be employed in theſe deſerts; camels were uſed in their ſtead, and

theſe were ſet round them in a circle, with their faces outward, and their reſpective loads and ſaddles placed behind them.

In this ſituation they ſerved as ſo many guards, being watchful, and awaking with the leaſt noiſe. As there was no chance of meeting in theſe long and dreary deſerts with the leaſt hoſpitality or entertainment, they were neceſſitated to carry along with them all things neceſſary for ſo tedious a journey. In the firſt place then they provided a ſufficient quantity of goats' ſkins, which were filled with water every four or five days, or as often as they found it. Barley, with a few beans intermixed, or elſe the flour of one or other of them, made into balls, was the provender laid in for their beaſts; they provided for themſelves wheaten-flour, biſcuit, honey, oil, vinegar, olives, lintel, potted fleſh, and ſuch things as would keep during two months, the ſpace commonly taken up in compleating this journey. Nor ſhould the wooden baſon or copper pot be forgotten, that made up the kitchen furniture; the latter whereof was the neceſſary utenſil for cooking the proviſion; the other for ſer-

ving it up, or kneading unleavened cakes: their fuel was the camels dung that was left by ſome preceding caravan; and this, after being expoſed a day or two in the ſun, catches fire like touchwood, and burns as bright as charcoal. No ſooner was their food prepared, than one of the Arabs, after having placed himſelf upon the higheſt ſtation he could find, invited three times, with a loud voice, all his brethren, the ſons of the faithful, to partake; tho' none of them were in view, or perhaps within a hundred miles. This cuſtom, however, they maintain as a token of their great benevolence, as it would be of their hoſpitality likewiſe, if they had an opportunity to ſhew it. When travellers are ſo fortunate in Barbary, as to find out the encampments of the Arabs, they are entertained, for one night, at free coſt: the Arabs, either by long cuſtom, the particular tenor of their lands, or perhaps from fear or compulſion, being obliged to give the Spahees, and thoſe who are with them, the Mounah, (as they call it) which is a ſufficient quantity of proviſion for themſelves and their horſes; beſides a bowl of

milk, and a baſket of figs, raiſins, dates, or other dried fruit, which is always preſented to them upon their arrival: the maſter of the tent, where they ſet up, brings from his flock, a kid or a goat, a lamb or a ſheep; half of which is immediately ſerved up with a Cuſcaſou; the reſt is uſually reſerved for their breakfaſt or dinner.

However, the tents of theſe roving herdſmen, though they may ſhelter from the weather, are notwithſtanding attended with their inconveniencies; for the cold and the dews, whereto people are every night expoſed, in the deſerts of Arabia, do not incommode half ſo much as the vermin and inſects of all kinds, which eternally moleſt: for beſides fleas and lice, that ſwarm, the apprehenſion of being bitten or ſtung by the ſcorpion, viper, or venemous ſpider, rarely fails in ſome parts of theſe countries, to interrupt the repoſe that is ſo grateful and neceſſary to a weary traveller. Upon ſight indeed of one or other of theſe venemous beaſts, a Thaleb or writer, who happened to be one of the Spahees, after he had muttered a few words, uſed to exhort every body to take courage, and not

be afraid of ſuch creatures, he having made them tame and harmleſs by his charms and inchantments. Strangers are not leſs offended by the kids, calves, and other young cattle, which being tied up every night under the eaves of the tents, to prevent them from ſucking their dams, are every moment breaking looſe, the cords that are uſed upon thoſe occaſions being only made of looſely ſpun yarn. When ſtrangers are at any time entertained in a courteous manner, for the Arabs will ſometimes part with nothing until it be extorted by force, the hoſt thinks himſelf ſufficiently requited, if preſented with a knife, a couple of flints, or a ſmall quantity of Engliſh gunpowder; which, being much ſtronger than that of Arabia, is held in greater eſteem, and kept only for priming fire-arms; as for the Lallah, or hoſteſs, ſhe would think herſelf well paid, and return a thouſand thanks for a ſkean of thread, a large needle, or a pair of ſciſſars; all of them great rarities, and very engaging preſents with theſe people.

During the exceſſive heats of the ſummer, and at ſome other times when there was room to fear an attack from free-boot-

ing Arabs, our author and his people travelled in the night; which having no eyes, according to the Arabian proverb, few of them then dare venture to ramble.

From Suez to Mount Sinai there is little or no riſque of being either robbed or inſulted, provided you keep up with the caravan; but a neglect of this kind may expoſe one to great danger.

In the Holy Land and upon the iſthmus betwixt Egypt and the Red-ſea, your conductors cannot be too numerous, whole clans of free-booters, from fifty to five hundred, being ſometimes looking out for prey. This was the caſe of a caravan, wherewith Dr. Shaw travelled, (A. D. 1722) in going from Ramah to Jeruſalem, when a ſtrong party of Turkiſh ſoldiers, with the moſolem, or general at the head of them, were ſcarcely able to afford protection againſt the repeated inſults and ravages of theſe villains. But in Barbary, where the Arabs are under more ſubjection, there is no need of being guarded by more than three Spahees, and a ſervant, all well armed. Sometimes, indeed, their numbers are obliged to be augmented, par-

ticularly among the independent Arabs, upon the frontiers of the neighbouring kingdoms, or where two contiguous clans are at variance. Theſe Harammes, as the free-booters are uſually called, are certainly what the Europeans mean by wild Arabs; there being no ſuch name peculiar to any one body of theſe people; and they being all bleſſed with the ſame pious inclinations to rob, ſtrip, plunder, and murder even one another, when they miſs of ſtrangers. However, the beſt way to eſcape them, is either to aſſume the habit of the country, or dreſs like a Spahee; for the Arabs are very jealous and inquiſitive, ſuſpecting all ſtrangers to be ſpies ſent to ſurvey their lands, which at one time or other, as they have been taught to fear, are to be reſtored to the Chriſtians.

The horſes and camels of theſe countries keep generally one conſtant pace; the latter go at the rate of two miles and a half, the other of three geographical miles in an hour. Sixty of which, according to Dr. Shaw's calculation, make one degree of a great circle. The ground over which they travel is firſt of all computed by hours,

and then reduced into miles. Every evening, therefore, as ſoon as they arrive at their quarters, they are wont to examine how many hours, and in what direction they have travelled that day, making proper allowances for the ſeveral windings and occaſional deviations out of the direct road.

CHAP. VII.

Of the ſtate of the ſciences in Barbary; the dreſs of the people; their diviſion of their hours, and employment; of their various diverſions.

HAVING run over our author's deſcription of Barbary, and the manner of evading the dangers that may fall out in travelling through it, we ſhall proceed to take a ſhort view of the learning, manners, government, climate, and productions. The ſciences are in this country at a very low ebb; phyſic, philoſophy, and the mathematics, for all which it was once remarkable, are now ſo loſt to it,

that ſcarcely the traces of them are remaining. Repoſe and liberty, the foſterer of arts, is fled; frightened from the clime by the oppreſſions of the Turks, and unſettled vagabond life of the Moors; and the former of theſe people often expreſs themſelves ſurprized that Chriſtians ſhould expend their time, and even their money, in ſtudy and ſpeculation, from whence they cannot collect any ſubſtantial profit.

THEIR children are ſent to ſchool at the age of ſix years, and taught to read, get by heart, and write at the rate of a penny a week; each boy is furniſhed with a thin ſquare board, daubed over with whiting, on which he inſcribes his letters, which may be rubbed out at pleaſure; for they are ſtrangers to the uſe of paper: being inſtructed in the Khoran, they are initiated very carefully in the ſeveral myſteries of their religion, and this is for the moſt part all their learning. The lad who excels moſt at ſchool, is, in order to encourage him, eſcorted through the ſtreets by his fellow ſcholars huzzaing round, he being finely dreſſed and mounted upon a white horſe, while his friends and relations load

him with preſents: after continuing about three years at ſchool, they are either put to trades, or inliſted amongſt the ſoldiery, where they ſoon forget all they have learned.

Our author tells us, that he made it his buſineſs, during his ſtay at Algiers, to cultivate an acquaintance with ſuch of their people as had any reputation for learning: among whom he found their beſt aſtronomer had ſcarcely ſufficient knowledge to project a ſun-dial, and the ſkill of their moſt experienced chymiſt did not extend beyond the diſtilling of roſe-water. Their geography was coarſe, blundering and imperfect, and after pricking a chart, and making out the eight principal points of the compaſs, they underſtood nothing of navigation. Their phyſicians chiefly ſtudied the Spaniſh edition of Dioſcorides, and of this they were rather acquainted with the cuts than the text; their muſicians, whether they play alone or in concert, depend much upon cuſtom and memory; and we may venture to affirm of theſe people, that they have ſtrong intellects, are ready witted, and nature has in general

given them genius; but to improve them, they want time, application, and encouragement.

BEING for the moſt part predeſtinarians, the Mahometans pay little regard to phyſic, and either uſe charms and incantations, or leave the diſorder to contend with nature. Some of them encourage inoculation for the ſmall-pox; and for the rheumatiſm, they cauteriſe the part affected. The Arabs pour boiling hot freſh butter into all ſimple and gun-ſhot wounds, and this remedy ſometimes ſucceeds; an application of the prickly pear roaſted in the aſhes, is good in ſuppurations; as are the leaves of alhenna mixed with warm water, in caſes of bruiſes, ſlight wounds, and inflammations. Theſe leaves not only tinge the ſkin with yellow, but paſſing immediately thro' the pores, communicate the ſame colour to the urine of the patient. They have very few compounded medicines; however, there is a mixture of myrtle, aloes, and myrtle-berries, which they adminiſter often happily in time of peſtilence.

IN ſome places they have calendars left them by their anceſters, which are rather

eſteemed curious than uſeful, although the ſun's place, the ſemidiurnal and nocturnal arch, the length of the twilight, and the hours of prayer, are beautifully inſerted in their proper columns, and calculated to a moment. Time is, in theſe countries, meaſured by hour-glaſſes, for the Mahometans have a ſtrong averſion to clocks and bells; but they much oftener judge of the day by the public cryers, who ſummon them to prayer. They are unacquainted either with algebra, or numeral arithmetic, although their forefathers furniſhed us with the characters of the one, and with the name, at leaſt, of the other. Yet they have a way of reckoning, by putting their hands into each others ſleeves, and touching one another with a certain joint or finger ſo expreſſively, that without moving the lips, or letting any body preſent into the ſecret, they can conclude bargains of the moſt conſiderable value. Their Thalebs, or wiſe men, are, however, ſo ſkilled in figures, if you believe their own report, that by certain combinations of numbers, they can compaſs the moſt wonderful things: for example, ſay they, one of them, called the

bleſſed amulet, hung round the neck, procures the favour of princes, intimidates an enemy, inſpires with courage, and protects the wearer from every ſort of danger.

THE Arabs wear a looſe diſorderly kind of dreſs, called a hyke, which is five or ſix yards long, and not leſs broad; this they wrap round them, and are forced to gird it with a ſaſh; at night it ſerves them for a bed and coverlid. Their upper garment, which they name the burnooſe, is generally wove in one piece; it has a cap for the head, is tight about the neck, and grows wide towards the bottom: this garment is only uſed in cold or rainy weather. Under the burnooſe and hyke, ſome of them wear a long cloſe-bodied waiſtcoat without ſleeves; their girdles are of worſted, and in them they ſtick their poinards, ſecretaries their inkhorns, and other people the badge of their calling. Different claſſes of people both among the Moors and Arabs are diſtinguiſhed by various foldings of the turban, which is a narrow piece of muſlin, ſilk or linen, wound about the bottom of a ſcarlet cloth cap, worn by al-

moſt all the richer ſort of Mahometans, and often ſhining with jewels.

It is cuſtomary for the Turks and Moors to wear linen underneath their tunics or cloſe waiſtcoats; but the Arabs in general have nothing but woolen. There is a ceremony, indeed, in ſome places, which obliges both the bride and bridegroom to wear a ſhirt at the celebration of their nuptials: but then, through ſome unaccountable piece of ſuperſtition, they are not afterwards to waſh or put it off, as long as it laſts. The ſleeves of thoſe worn by the men, are wide and open, without any folds at the wriſt; whilſt thoſe of the women are made with gauze and different coloured ribbands, interchangeably ſown together; neither are the wandering Arabs accuſtomed to wear drawers, a habit in which the citizens of both ſexes appear, eſpecially when they go abroad or receive viſits. The virgins are diſtinguiſted from the matrons, in having their drawers made of needle-work, ſtriped ſilk, or linen: but when the women are at home or in private, they lay aſide their hykes, and ſometimes their tunics, and in-

ſtead of their drawers, bind only a towel about their loins.

It is farther to be obſerved of the Mooriſh women, that when they appear in public, they always fold themſelves up ſo cloſely in their hykes, that there is very little to be ſeen of their faces: but in the ſummer months, when they retire to their country ſeats, they walk abroad with leſs caution, only letting their veils fall upon the approach of a ſtranger.

They affect to have their hair hang down to the ground, or they gather it into one lock upon the hinder part of their head, binding and plaiting it with ribbands; when nature hath been leſs liberal, the defect is to be ſupplied by artificial added to the natural locks. Some commentators have imagined that Abſalom's hair, which was ſold for two hundred ſhekels, was purchaſed for this uſe. Having plaited up the hair, they proceed to dreſs their heads, by tying cloſe together above the lock, the ſeveral corners of a triangular piece of linen, wrought with a needle into a variety of figures. Perſons of better faſhion wear over this a ſarmah, as they call it, which

is of much the ſame ſhape, but made of thin flexible plates of gold or ſilver variouſly cut through, and engraved in imitation of lace. A handkerchief of crape, gauze, ſilk, or painted linen bound round the ſarmah, and falling afterwards careleſly upon the hair, completes the head-tire of the Mooriſh ladies; yet they never think themſelves completely dreſſed, till they have tinged the hair and edges of their eye-lids with powder of lead ore. This operation is performed by dipping firſt into the powder, a ſmall wooden bodkin of the thickneſs of a quill; and then drawing it through the eye-lids over the ball of the eye; the ſooty colour thus communicated to the eyes, is thought to add wonderful grace to the features of perſons of all complexions. The practice of it is, no doubt, very antient; for we read in ſome authentic hiſtorians, that it was uſed as well by the Greeks and Romans as the eaſtern nations.

Both Turks and Moors riſe early, go to their devotions at day-break, then apply to their reſpective callings till ten o' clock, when they dine, mind buſineſs till four, then attend prayers again, ſup at

ſun-ſet, and go to bed about the cloſe of day: they never begin or conclude any affair without thanking God. Some of the graver ſort of people, who have no conſtant employment, ſpend the day either in converſing with one another at the barbers ſhops, or at the coffee-houſe; whilſt the younger ſort, whether diſpoſed of in civil or military life, attend their concubines with wine and muſick into the fields, or elſe make themſelves merry at a tavern. Though this practice is expreſly prohibited by their religion, yet the neceſſity of the times, and uncontroulable paſſions of luſty youth, oblige the government to diſpenſe with the breach.

The Arab ſeldom follows any regular trade or employment; his life is one continual round of idleneſs or diverſion. When no paſtime calls him abroad, he loiters at home, ſmokes his pipe, or ſtretches himſelf under the friendly ſhade of ſome neighbouring tree. He has no reliſh for domeſtic pleaſure, and is rarely known to converſe with his wife, or play with his children. He values nothing ſo much as his horſe, being ſeldom ſo well pleaſed as when

he is far from home, riding and hunting. The Arabs, and indeed all the people of the eaſt, are excellent at this exerciſe; for there are few of them who cannot quickly hunt down a wild boar. We find upon one of the medalions of Conſtantine's arch, a very beautiful repreſentation of this ſport, as it is performed, to this day, by the Arabs; who after they have rouſed the beaſt from his retirement, and purſued it into ſome adjacent plain, endeavour there, by frequent overtaking and turning, to tire and perplex it; then watching an opportunity, either tranſfix it with their lances from ſome diſtance, or elſe, coming cloſe by its ſide, fix their ſpears in its body.

At the hunting of the lion, the inhabitants of a whole diſtrict are ſummoned to appear; who, forming themſelves firſt into a circle, encloſe a large ſpace of ground, of three, four or five miles compaſs; then the footmen advancing, firſt, ruſh into the thickets, with their dogs and ſpears, to rouſe their game; whilſt the horſemen, keeping a little behind, are always ready to charge upon the firſt ſally of the beaſt. In this manner they proceed, ſtill contract-

ing their circle, till they at laſt either cloſe together, or meet with game to divert them.

THE accidental paſtime, upon theſe occaſions, is ſometimes very great; for the ſeveral different ſorts of animals, ſuch as hares, jackalls, hyænas, &c. that lye within the compaſs, being driven together, afford variety of excellent diverſion. It is a common obſervation here, that when the lion perceives himſelf in danger, he will ſeize directly upon the perſon neareſt him, and rather then quit his hold, ſuffer himſelf to be cut to pieces.

HAWKING is one of the principal diverſions among the Arabs and gentry of the kingdom of Tunis; and their woods abound with many beautiful ſpecies of hawks and falcons. Thoſe who delight in fowling do not ſpring the game with dogs, but ſhade themſelves with a piece of painted canvas ſtretched upon two reeds, in the ſhape of a door, and walk thus covered through the ſeveral breaks and avenues, where they expect to find game. In this canvas there are ſeveral holes for the fowler to look through and obſerve what paſ-

ſes before him. It is remarkable, that the partridge, and other gregarious birds, will, upon the approach of the canvas, covey together, though they were before at ſome diſtance from each other; and the woodcock, the quail, and ſuch birds, likewiſe, as do not commonly feed in flocks, will upon ſight of it, ſtand ſtill and look aſtoniſhed, thus giving the ſportſman an opportunity of coming very near them, when reſting his ſhade upon the ground, and directing the muzzle of his piece thro' one of the holes, he knocks down ſometimes a whole covey at a time.

THE Arabs have another, and more laborious method of catching partridges: for obſerving that after theſe birds have been haſtily ſprung twice or thrice, they become languid and fatigued; they immediately run in upon them and knock them down.

WITH regard to the manners and cuſtoms of the Bedoweens, or wandering Arabs, it is to be obſerved that they retain a great many of thoſe we read of in ſacred as well as prophane hiſtory; being, if we except their religion, the ſame people they

were two or three thouſand years ago; without embracing any of theſe novelties in dreſs or behaviour, which have had ſo many periods and revolutions in the Mooriſh and Turkiſh cities. Upon meeting one another, they ſtill uſe the primitive ſalutation of, *Peace be unto you.* Before the Mahometan conqueſts, the expreſſion was, *God prolong your life.* The inferiors, out of deference and reſpect, kiſs the feet, knees, or garments of their ſuperiors; whilſt the children or kinsfolks pay the ſame reſpect to the heads of their parents and aged relations. The poſture they obſerve in giving one another the aſſlemah, or ſalute, is to lay their right hand upon their breaſt, whilſt others who are more intimately acquainted, or of equal age and dignity, mutually kiſs the hand, head, or ſhoulder of each other.

At the feaſt of their Byram and other great ſolemnities, the wife compliments her huſband by kiſſing his hand.

CHAP. VIII.

Of the civilities paid by theſe people to their gueſts; of their cuſtoms in general; their ſuperſtition.

IT is no diſgrace here for perſons of the higheſt characters to buſy themſelves in what we ſhould reckon menial employments; nor is the greateſt prince of theſe countries aſhamed to play the drover or butcher, by bringing a lamb from his herd and killing it; whilſt the princeſs prepares her fire and kettle to dreſs it. The cuſtom that ſtill continues of walking barefoot, or only with ſandals, require the antient compliments of bringing water to a ſtranger, upon his arrival, to waſh his feet: the perſon who preſents himſelf the firſt to do this office, and to give the welcome, is the maſter of the family, who always diſtinguiſhes himſelf by being the moſt officious; and who, after his entertainment is prepared, thinks it a ſhame to ſit down with his gueſts, but will ſtand up all the time

and wait upon them. Yet the outward behaviour of the Arab frequently gives the lie to his inward temper and inclination; for he is naturally thievish and treacherous; and it happens not ſeldom, that theſe very perſons are overtaken and pillaged in the morning, who were entertained the night before with every mark of friendſhip and hoſpitality. Neither are they to be accuſed for plundering ſtrangers only, for from their attacking almoſt every perſon whom they find unarmed and defenceleſs, ariſe thoſe many implacable and hereditary animoſities which continually ſubſiſt among them.

However, it ſhould be mentioned, to the honour of the weſtern Moors, that they ſtill continue to carry on a trade with ſome barbarous nations bordering upon the river Niger, without ſeeing the perſons they trade with, or without having once broke through that original charter of commerce, which from time immemorial has been ſettled between them. The method is this: at a certain time of the year they make this journey in a numerous caravan, carrying along with them ſeveral

ſtrings of coral and glaſs beads, bracelets of horn, knives, ſciſſars, and ſuch like trinkets. When they arrive at the place appointed, which is on a certain day of the moon, they find in the evening ſeveral different heaps of gold-duſt lying at a ſmall diſtance from each other; againſt which the Moors place ſo many of their trinkets as they judge them worth, and then retire. If the Nigritians, the next morning, approve of the bargain, they take up the trinkets, and leave the gold, or elſe make ſome deductions from the gold-duſt, &c. And in this manner they tranſact their exchange, without the leaſt inſtance of diſhoneſty.

THE cuſtom which the Noſamones had formerly of plighting their troth, by drinking out of each other's cap, is at this time the only ceremony uſed by the Algerines in their marriages; but the contract is to be firſt of all agreed upon betwixt the parents, wherein expreſs mention is made, not only of the ſaddock or bride's jointure, but likewiſe of the ſeveral changes of raiment, the quantity of jewels, and number of ſlaves, wherewith ſhe is to be ſerved

when ſhe firſt waits upon her huſband. The parties never ſee one another till the marriage is to be conſummated; at which time the relations being withdrawn, the bridegroom firſt unveils, and then undreſſes his bride.

Upon forfeiture of the ſaddock, the huſband can put away his wife, but cannot take her again, notwithſtanding the ſtrongeſt ſolicitations are made in his favour, till ſhe has been married and bedded to another man.

The civility and reſpect which the politer nations of Europe pay to the weaker ſex, are looked upon here as extravagancies, and ſo many infringements of that law of nature which aſſigns to man the pre-eminence. So that the matrons are conſidered only as ſervants of better faſhion, whilſt the lazy huſbands wander about, doing nothing; and the youth of both ſexes attend the flocks, are all the day employed at the loom, at the mill, or elſe in making cuſcaſſowe, &c. and as it draws towards night, they go out to draw water, being to that end furniſhed with a pitcher or a goat's ſkin; with which, and

perhaps a couple of young children ſlung at their back, the women will trudge two or three miles. Yet, in the midſt of all theſe labours, neither the country nor city ladies will lay aſide any of their ornaments; and though they ſweat under their loads, you will find them encumbered with bracelets, ear-rings, ſhackles, jewels bobbing at the noſe, and their eyes nicely penciled. So prevalent is cuſtom, even in Barbary, and ſo very zealous are people to appear in what they call the mode and faſhion.

Most of the Mooriſh women would be reckoned beauties, even in Great-Britain; as their children certainly have the fineſt complexions of any nation whatſoever: the boys indeed, by wearing only the tiara, are expoſed ſo much to the ſun, that they quickly attain the ſwarthineſs of the Arabs; but the girls keeping more at home, preſerve their beauty till they are thirty, at which age they are uſually paſt childbearing. It ſometimes happens that they are mothers at eleven, and a grand-mother at two and twenty: and as their lives are uſually of the ſame length with thoſe of the Europeans, there have not been in-

ſtances wanting among them, of ſome who have lived to ſee many generations ſprung from their own loins.

At all the principal entertainments, and by way of ſhewing ſatisfaction, the women welcome the arrival of a gueſt, by ſqualling out, Loo, loo, ſeveral times together. At their funerals, alſo, they repeat the ſame noiſe, making it only more deep and hollow, and ending each period with a deep ſigh. There are ſeveral women to be hired, upon theſe melancholy occaſions, who, like the mourning women of old, are miſtreſſes of very affecting expreſſions; and perform their parts with ſuch proper geſtures and commotions, that they rarely fail to work up their auditors into ſome extraordinary pitch of thoughtfulneſs and ſorrow.

No people in the world are ſo much addicted to ſuperſtition as the Arabs, or even as the Mahometans in general. They hang about their children's necks the figure of an open hand, as protection againſt an evil eye; and by way of a guard againſt enchantments, both the Turks and Moors paint it upon their ſhips and houſes. They

reckon five an unlucky number; and *five in your eyes*, is with them an evil imprecation. They carry always about with them a paragraph of the Koran, which they place upon their breaſts, or ſew under their caps, to prevent faſcination and witchcraft, and to ſecure themſelves from ſickneſs and misfortunes.

THE virtues of theſe charms and ſcrolls are ſuppoſed, likewiſe, to be ſo far univerſal, that they ſuſpend them upon the necks of their cattle, horſes, and other beaſts of burthen to protect them.

THEY place great faith and confidence in magicians and ſorcerers; and upon ſome extraordinary occaſions, particularly in a lingering diſtemper, they uſe many ſuperſtitious ceremonies; ſuch as ſacrificing a cock, a ſheep, or a goat, and burying the whole carcaſs under ground, or by drinking part of the blood, or elſe by burning or ſcattering the feathers. It is a prevailing opinion here, that many diſeaſes proceed from ſome offence or other committed againſt the jenounæ, a ſort of creatures placed, by the Mahometants, betwixt angels and devils; and which, like the

fairies of our forefathers, are ſuppoſed to frequent ſhades and fountains, and to aſſume the bodies of toads, worms, and other like animals, which are always in the way of being trodden upon and hurted; and any perſon who chances to be maimed or ſickly, fancies that he has aſſuredly injured one or other of theſe beings. To appeaſe the wrath of which, theſe rites are performed particularly on a Wedneſday; and to preſide over them is the province of the weaker ſex, the victim being adapted in value either to the quality of the patient, or the ſtubborn nature of his diſorder.

THE Mahometans have a great veneration for their Marabbutts, who are generally perſons of rigid and auſtere life, continually employing themſelves either in counting over their beads, or elſe in meditation and prayer. This ſaintſhip goes by ſucceſſion, and the ſon is entitled to the ſame reverence and eſteem with the father; provided he can keep up equal gravity and decorum. Some of them, alſo, have the reputation of being bleſſed with heavenly viſions, and converſing with the God-

head, whilſt others, who are ſuppoſed to work miracles, pretend they are endowed with gifts which Mahomet himſelf durſt not pretend to.

Our author was told by Seedy Muſtafa, the Kaleefa of the weſtern province, in the preſence of a number of Arabian Shekho, who vouched for the ſame fact, that a Marabbut, near at hand, had a ſolid iron bar, which, upon command, would yield an exploſion, equal in noiſe and execution to that of a cannon; and that once the whole Algerine army, upon demanding too exorbitant a tax from the Arabs under his protection, were put to flight by the miracle. Yet, notwithſtanding the frequency, as they pretend, of this experiment, the merit urged, which Dr. Shaw ſaid would accrue from convincing a Chriſtian of its being true, and the ſolicitations of the whole company, the Marabbut had too much policy to hazard his reputation by compliance. At Seteef, our author once ſaw a Marabbut famous for vomiting fire; but it was plain to any one, who cloſely attended his performance, that it was all trick; and that the flames and

ſmoke that ſurrounded him, aroſe from ſome tow and flax, which he contrived to ſet on fire under his burnooſe, in which he hid himſelf, under pretence of receiving the inſpiration.

CHAP. IX.

Of the government, ſtrength, and alliances of Algiers.

WE ſhall in this chapter conſider the force, laws, revenues, government, alliances, and courts of judicature in Algiers; beginning with their government, which differs from that of Tunis, and conſiſts of the dey, who is to be conſidered as the ſtadtholder, and of a douwanne, or common-council. The douwanne is principally compoſed of thirty Yiah baſhaws, though the mufti, the cadi, and the whole ſoldiery, are ſometimes called upon to aſſiſt. All affairs of moment ought to be agreed upon by this aſſembly, before they paſs into laws, and before the dey is allowed to put them into execution.

For ſome years paſt this body has been poorly reſpected, though always formally convened; but then it is only to conſent, with formality, to ſuch propoſitions as have been beforehand concerted, betwixt the dey and his favourites: ſo that, in effect, the whole power is lodged in the Dey, who is choſen out of the army; the moſt inferior member of which may aſpire to that dignity, and every courageous ſoldier may be conſidered as the heir apparent to the throne; nor is he under any neceſſity of waiting till ſickneſs or old age remove the preſent incumbent: it is enough that he is able to protect himſelf with the ſame cymeter which he hath had the boldneſs to ſheath in the bowels of his predeceſſor. If he has reſolution to attempt the throne, he can ſcarcely fail to mount it.

THE whole force of Algiers, in Turks, &c. is about ſix thouſand five hundred men; two thouſand of whom are excuſed through age from doing duty, one thouſand are conſtantly employed in relieving annually their garriſons, whilſt the reſt are either diſperſed among the cruiſers,

or contribute to make up the three flying camps, which are ſent out every ſummer under the command of the provincial vice-roys. To the Turkiſh troops, we may join about two thouſand Mooriſh horſe, which are kept in conſtant pay; but being all of them hereditary enemies to the Turks, theſe are ſeldom conſidered as the real ſafe-guard and defence of the government. To make up the deficiencies in the army, their cruiſing veſſels are ſent out every five or ſix years to the Levant for recruits, which are generally made up of ſhepherds, out-laws, and people of the meaneſt condition.

MAHOMET Baſhaw, who was at this time Dey of Algiers, was not aſhamed to own his extraction; for, in a diſpute which he once had with a certain deputy-conſul, 'my mother,' ſaid he, 'ſold ſheeps feet, 'and my father neats tongues; but they 'would have bluſhed to have expoſed to 'ſale ſo worthleſs a tongue as yours;' yet theſe recruits, after they have been a little inſtructed by their fellow-ſoldiers, have got caps to their heads, ſhoes to their feet, and knives in their girdles, begin to aſſume airs of grandeur, expect to be ſaluted with

the title of your grace; and look upon the moſt conſiderable citizens as their ſlaves, and the conſuls of Chriſtian nations as their footmen.

THE ordinary diſtribution of juſtice is veſted, as in all Turkiſh governments, in the cady; an officer, who, for the moſt part, has had his education in the ſeminaries of Grand Cairo, where it is ſaid, that the Roman codes and pandects, tranſlated into the Arabic tongue, are taught and explained as in the univerſities of Europe. The cady is obliged to attend at the court of juſtice once or twice a day, to hear and determine the ſeveral ſuits and complaints that are brought before him: but as bribery is too often charged upon him, all affairs of moment are laid before the Dey; and, in caſe of his being abſent, or otherwiſe employed, they are heard by the treaſurer, maſter of the horſe, and other principal officers of the regency, who ſit conſtantly in the gate of the palace for that purpoſe. At all theſe tribunals the cauſe is quickly decided, nothing more being required than the proof of what is alledged; ſo that a matter of debt, treſpaſs,

or of the higheſt crimes, will be finally decided, and the ſentence executed in leſs than half an hour. In caſes of debt, the debtor is uſually detained in priſon, till the bailiff ſeizes upon and ſells his effects; if the ſale amounts to more than the debt, then the overplus is returned to the priſoner; if it falls ſhort, he is notwithſtanding releaſed, and no future demands are made upon him.

SLIGHT offences are puniſhed with the baſtinado; that is, the offender is condemned to receive a certain number of ſtrokes upon his buttocks, or the ſoals of his feet, with ſticks of the thickneſs of one's little finger: but in greater crimes, particularly for unnatural luſt, not only the parts already mentioned, but the abdominal muſcles are to be chaſtiſed: a puniſhment generally attended with death. A man who defaces the current coin of the nation, is condemned to loſe his hand, according to the old Egyptian puniſhment. Jew or Chriſtian ſubjects guilty of murder, or any other capital crime, are burned alive without the gates of the city; but the Moors and Arabs are either impaled for

the ſame crime, hung up by the neck over the battlements of the city, or elſe thrown upon the hooks that are fixed in the walls below, where ſometimes they endure the moſt exquiſite agonies, for perhaps thirty or forty hours, before they expire.

THE Turks are not puniſhed in public, like other offenders; but, out of reſpect to their characters, are ſent to the houſe of the Aga, where, according to the quality of the miſdemeanour, they are baſtinadoed or ſtrangled. Out of regard likewiſe to the female ſex, when women offend, they are not expoſed to the populace, but ſent to ſome private houſe of correction; or, if the crime is capital, they are tied up in ſacks, and thrown into the ſea. The weſtern Moors ſtill uſe the barbarous puniſhment of ſawing criminals aſunder; for which purpoſe they prepare two boards, of the ſame length and breadth with thoſe of the unfortunate delinquent, and having tied him betwixt them, they proceed to the execution, by beginning at his head. Kardinaſh, a perſon of the firſt rank, who had formerly been embaſſador from hence to the Britiſh court, and was well known

to the naval and military gentlemen at Gibraltar, ſuffered lately in this manner; for in the puniſhment of theſe countries, there is little or no regard paid to the quality of the offender. Sometimes, indeed, a pecuniary mulct will ſtop the courſe of juſtice; but if the crime is flagrant, no other than the legiſlative attonement can be made for it.

THIS government is in alliance with the Engliſh, the French, the Dutch, and the Swedes. Great application has been often made by the Porte in behalf of the emperor's ſubjects; but all in vain, although the Algerines acknowledge themſelves to be the vaſſals of the grand ſignior, and as ſuch, ſhould be entirely devoted to his orders and commands.

THE Swedes purchaſed peace of them at the rate of ſeventy thouſand dollars: and as the Algerine cruiſers rarely meet with veſſels of that nation, this proceeding has been regarded as a myſtery. The ſucceſs which the Dutch met with, during a war againſt them of twelve years, the magnificent preſent of naval ſtores that was promiſed, on the ratification of the peace,

together with the natural timidity of the Dey, leſt, by further loſſes, he ſhould be reckoned unfortunate, were the chief reaſons of their extending their friendſhip to that republic. It is certain, that the greateſt part of the ſoldiers and naval officers ſtrenuouſly oppoſed it, urging that it would be in vain to arm their veſſels, when they were at peace with the three trading nations; that their loſs was inconſiderable, when compared to the riches they obtained by the war; concluding with this very expreſſive Arabian proverb, "Perſons "ought never to ſow, who are afraid of "ſparrows." As the younger ſoldiers cannot well ſubſiſt, without the money that ariſes from their ſhares in prizes, there has been no ſmall murmuring at the little ſucceſs they have lately met with. And it is very probable, that the very moment any conſiderable addition is made to their fleet, nay, perhaps, without any further augmentation, the preſent Dey will be obliged to leſſen the number of his alliances, from thoſe very principles, which, a few years ago, engaged his predeceſſors to encreaſe them.

THE Algerines have certainly a great eſteem and friendſhip for the Engliſh nation; provided there could be any reliance on the appearance of a government, that is guided by chance and humour more than by council and mature deliberation; it is very probable, that whatever trading nation they may think fit to quarrel with, England has little to apprehend. The Dutch are very induſtrious in cultivating a good underſtanding with them, by making them an annual preſent; a method hitherto very prevalent and ſucceſsful: whilſt on the other hand, the French may perhaps influence them as much, by putting them in mind of the execution which their bombs did formerly in this city; and of a later inſtance of their reſentment againſt Tripoli. They are convinced of the dangers accruing to them from the poſſeſſors of Marſeilles and Toulon; but then they are not to be perſuaded but that Gibralter and Minorca are more conveniently ſituated to give them diſturbance. But reaſon and argument will not always be reliſhed at a court, where the firſt miniſter is the cook, where an inſolent ſoldiery have too often

the ordering of the meſs. In critical junctures, therefore, the ground is to be maintained by the nice management and addreſs of the conſul; who ought to know how to make proper application to the particular paſſions of thoſe who have the Dey's ear; by flattering one, placing a confidence in another, and eſpecially by making proper uſe of thoſe invincible arguments, money, gold watches, and other trinkets; for it is an old and infallible ſaying, "Give a "Turk money with one hand, and he will "permit his eye to be plucked out by the "other."

An Account of a

JOURNEY to PALMYRA,

OTHERWISE

TEDMOR in the DESART.

WITH

A DESCRIPTION of the Remains of the Ruins of that celebrated City.

CHAP. I.

The design of this undertaking explained.

THE book from which we make this very entertaining extract, was publiſhed by Mr. Robert Wood, a gentleman diſtinguiſhed for his taſte and erudition, and well known in polite life; but more

eſpecially as being under-ſecretary to the honourable Mr. Pitt.

The enquiry into the curious remains of Palmyra, was ſet on foot by Mr. Dawkins, a name as dear to all lovers of *la virtu*, as the elegant owner of it is an ornament to ſociety: he was ſoon joined by Mr. Wood and Mr. Bouverie, a gentleman of ſcience, and univerſally eſteemed; but he died before the taſk was carried into execution. The fourth perſon engaged upon this delectable ſcheme, was an Italian of undoubted ſkill in architecture and drawing. The rendezvous of this ſcientific community, was at Rome; where they ſpent the winter in ſtudying the antient hiſtory and geography of the places they intended to viſit.

In ſpring they ſet out for Naples, where they met a ſhip ſent from London for their particular uſe; having on board her a choice collection of Greek hiſtorians and poetry, ſeveral books of antiquities and voyages, many mathematical inſtruments and other things, which, in their opinion, might (as preſents) be uſefully divided among the different Turkiſh and other noblemen, to

whom they might have occaſion to addreſs themſelves. Having embarked, they ſteered for the Archipelago, the moſt remarkable places of which they viſited, as well as part of Greece, Europe, the coaſts of the Helleſpont, Propontis, &c. up to the Black Sea; together with the inland parts of Aſia Minor, Syria, Phœnicia, Paleſtine, and Egypt.

In each of theſe places our voyagers found ſomething particularly reliſhing to their different taſtes and diſpoſitions; but the antient, rather than the modern ſtate of each country, where they touched, was that which more particularly attracted their attention. Places that have been the ſcene of ſo many glorious actions, that have given birth to ſo many great men, cannot be viewed with indifference.

Juſtly does our judicious author obſerve, "Circumſtances of climate and ſitu-"ation, otherwiſe trivial, become intereſt-"ing from that connection with great men "and great actions, which they derive from "hiſtory and poetry. The life of Miltia-"des or of Leonidas could never be read "with ſo much pleaſure as on the plains

" of Marathon, or at the ſtreights of Ther-
" mopylæ; the Iliad has new beauties on
" the banks of the Scamander; and where
" Ulyſſes travelled, and Homer wrote and
" ſung, we ſhall find the Iliad more beau-
" tiful than ever; deſcription cannot paint
" what warm imaginations, aſſiſted by
" learning and taſte, feel from ſuch ſcenes.
" The place of action throws new light on
" the hiſtorian's narration, and illuſtrates
" the poet's plan." In this tour our po-
lite travellers entertained themſelves often with cauſing their draftſman to delineate a map of the country; and they meaſured the Scamandrian plain with Homer in their hands.

They every where copied inſcriptions; and if not prevented by the extortions of avarice, or the folly of ſuperſtition, they carried off the antient marbles. In their progreſs they bought up all the Syrian, Greek, and Arabic MSS. they could lay their hands upon; purchaſing every thing of that nature without diſtinction, hoping that ſomething valuable might fully repay their trouble in ſearching among a great deal of rubbiſh. In this reſpect the Maro-

nite churches of Syria were the moſt ſerviceable. They were remarkably curious in inſpecting every remains of antient architecture that fell in their way; and their curioſity was, in this point, fully ſatisfied in many other places beſides Lydia, Ionia, and Caria. Having provided themſelves with proper tools for digging, they ſometimes employed the peaſants of the country in that work, and the valuable fragments of antiquity which they recovered, anſwered all their toil and perplexity. The principal intention of Mr. Dawkins, in this tour, was to compile an hiſtory of the three Greek orders of architecture, at leaſt with regard to the changes they underwent from the time of Pericles to that of Dioclefian.

CHAP. II.

Of the journey through the Deſart to Palmyra, and the preſent ruined ſtate of the place.

THERE is no part of a tour through the eaſt ſo difficult as a journey to Palmyra; becauſe it lies in the Deſart, quite out of the common road, and beyond the Grand Signior's protection. However, nothing could deter our virtuoſi from purſuing their deſign; being determined to ſet out from Aleppo or Damaſcus. Having endeavoured, to no purpoſe, to make the firſt of theſe cities, they anchored at Byroot, on the coaſt of Syria; where diſembarking, they travelled to Damaſcus, by the way of mount Libanus, over which they croſſed.

HERE they learned that neither the name nor power of the Baſhaw of Damaſcus could be the leaſt ſecurity to them; Palmyra being out of his juriſdiction, and under that of an Aga, who reſided at Haſſia, a

ſmall village, four days journey north of Palmyra.

HASSIA lies on the great carravan-road from Damaſcus to Aleppo, and the Orontes is but a few hours diſtant: here they met with a hoſpitable reception from the Aga, who expreſſed himſelf much ſurprized at their journey; but furniſhed them, however, with all neceſſary directions to make it as little troubleſome as poſſible, and gave them an eſcort of his beſt Arab horſemen, armed with guns and long pikes; by whom they were in four hours conducted to Sudud, travelling through a barren plain, over-run entirely with antilopes.

SUDUD is a poor village made up of cabbins, built only with mud-walls hardened in the ſun: the inhabitants are Maronite Chriſtians, who cultivate barely as much land as is neceſſary for their ſubſiſtence, and make tolerable red wine. Here they dined, and having purchaſed from the prieſt ſome Greek MSS. they proceeded to Howareen, at preſent a poor Turkiſh village, though, if we may be allowed to judge from its ruins, it was once a place of ſome

conſideration; there being a ſquare tower with projecting battlements, calculated for defence, and two mouldering churches, in the walls of which are ſeveral Corinthian capitals, and large Attic baſes of white marble. Theſe ſtructures appear to be of near four hundred years ſtanding, though in the compoſition are found many materials of much older date. Thoſe and other ſcattered fragments of antiquity about Howareen, appear to have been erected with little taſte, though in profuſion of expence. Not far off we meet with a village, deſerted by its inhabitants, which is often the caſe in this part of the world, where the people often fly to evade the iron hand of oppreſſion, when the lands have no acquired value from cultivation.

From hence to Carieteen the diſtance is about two hours, keeping upon a ſouthern direction. This village is rather larger than the laſt, and ſhews ſome few broken columns, and Corinthian capitals of marble, with two imperfect Greek inſcriptions. They reſted here the beſt part of the ſecond day of their journey, to collect their people, and reſt their cattle; becauſe in

this part of the Deſart they may eaſily be loſt, there being no ſettled ſtages, nor any water. By this day's delay all the carravan had time to come up, and being now a more numerous body, were conſequently the leſs governable. This inconvenience occaſioned their not ſetting forward till ten o'clock in the morning, whereby they were all that and the following day obliged to travel without either reſt or water; and to make their circumſtances ſtill worſe, though it was ſo early in the ſeaſon, the heat of the ſun reflected from the ſand was extremely troubleſome; neither had they the ſlighteſt breeze to refreſh them, or the thinneſt ſhade under which they might find ſhelter.

The company conſiſted now of about two hundred perſons, and their aſſes, mules, camels, &c. were not leſs numerous. The guide now informed the travellers, that this being the moſt dangerous part of the way, it was neceſſary they ſhould all put themſelves entirely under his direction. In conſequence of which advice, the ſervants with the bagagge were ordered to fall back to the rear, there to remain protected by

the Arab eſcort, from which two or three horſemen, who rode in Tartar faſhion, with very ſhort ſtirrups, &c. were diſpatched, for diſcovery, to every eminence that came in ſight. It is hard to ſay whether this ſeeming precaution aroſe from a real apprehenſion of danger, or elſe an oſtentation of vigilance, in order to give their attendance a greater air of uſe.

THE road here was N. and by E. thro' a flat ſandy plain about ten miles broad, bounded to the right and left by a ridge of barren hills that ſeem to join within two miles of Palmyra. Nor is there in all the courſe either trees or water; the ſameneſs of the way and the continued gloomineſs of the proſpect was a little alleviated by the Arab horſemen engaging in mock fights, and performing feats as they rode, in which, while they entertained, they manifeſted great dexterity, and ſhewed themſelves well ſkilled in horſemanſhip. At night they ſat themſelves down in a circle, and having regaled themſelves with coffee and a pipe, one of them diverted the reſt with a ſtory or a ſong, perhaps extemporary, the ſubject of which was either love or

war. There are the marks of a Malteſe croſs to be found in ſeveral places of the walls of a ruined tower, lying nine hours diſtance from Carietein: here is alſo viſible a rich marble door-caſe, that muſt have belonged to a magnificent ſtructure which is overwhelmed with the ſand. At midnight the carravan halted two hours to refreſh; and on the 14th of March, about noon, they reached the end of the plain, where the hills appeared to meet: here they found a vale, through which runs a ruined aqueduct that formerly conveyed water to Palmyra. The ſepulchres of the antient inhabitants of which city lie thick both on the right and left, being ſquare towers of conſiderable height.

HAVING paſſed theſe venerable monuments, a ſudden opening among the hills diſcovered to the aſtoniſhed eye a moſt incredible quantity of magnificent ruins of white marble, and beyond them a flat waſte, ſtretching all the way to the Euphrates. No proſpect can be imagined more ſtriking and romantic, more grand and melancholy than ſuch innumerable piles of Co-

rinthian pillars, without any intervening wall or building of the leaſt ſolidity.

THERE cannot be a greater contraſt than ſubſiſts between theſe ſtupendous ruins of grandeur, and the ſorry huts wherein the preſent Arab inhabitants dwell, and our virtuoſo were lodged. Both men and women here are well ſhaped; their complexions are ſwarthy, but their features good. They hang rings of either gold or braſs, as they can afford, in their noſes and ears; they colour their lips blue, their eyes and eye-brows black, and the tips of their fingers red. The female ſex, though veiled, are not ſo reſerved as moſt other eaſtern women, being eaſily prevailed upon to throw aſide the covering. Both ſexes are very healthy, being almoſt ſtrangers to diſeaſe; whence we conclude that the climate is ſtill as wholeſome as it was in the days of Longinus, who ſpeaks very well of it in an epiſtle to Pliny. They have ſcarcely any rain, but at the time of the equinoxes: and the ſky, during our travellers ſtay here, was extremely ſerene, except once that it was much darkened by a whirlwind of ſand from the Deſart, which preceded a ſhower

of rain, and gave a ſmall idea of thoſe dreadful hurricanes that have been often known to overwhelm whole carravans.

Our travellers remained in this place fifteen days, during which time the Arab inhabitants ſupplied them pretty well with mutton and goats fleſh; but if they had ſtaid much longer, this ſort of fare would have become ſcarce.

Geographers differ with reſpect to the ſituation of Palmyra; ſome placing it in Syria, ſome in Arabia, and others in Phœnicia; according to Ptolomy it lies in lat. 34°: on the weſt it is bounded by a ridge of barren hills; its other ſides look upon the Deſart. Aleppo and Damaſcus are equi-diſtant, about ſix days journey, reckoning each day's journey eight leagues; the road hither, from the latter, is rather ſhorter, but infinitely more dangerous than the former. The Euphrates is twenty leagues diſtant to the weſtward. The walls, which ſurround this city, were flanked with ſquare towers; in many parts, particularly on the S. E. nothing of them exiſts; and from the beſt computation that Mr. Wood could make, he imagines their

circuit could not have been leſs than three Engliſh miles, provided they include the great temple.

But as Palmyra muſt, when in its flouriſhing ſtate, have been much more than three miles round, it is not improbable that the old city covered a neighbouring piece of ground, the circumference of which is ten miles, and in every ſpot of which, the Arabs ſay, that ruins are turned up upon digging. This is ſtill a more reaſonable ſuppoſition; when we remember that ſuch fragments of antiquity as are found upon the three miles compaſs, juſt now mentioned, could have belonged only to magnificent ſepulchres and public edifices of the grandeſt kind; the moſt evident proofs that can be of an extenſive city. Perhaps then the walls, of which we have juſt now ſpoken, incloſe only that part of Palmyra which its publick buildings occupied in its moſt proſperous ſtate; and were fortified, if not erected, by Juſtinian, who, according to Procopius, judged this a proper place to ſtem the furious progreſs of the Saracens. So that from a rich trading city, which it was, we ſhall

hereafter prove, for private convenience, it was reduced to a frontier garriſon.

By cloſely inſpecting this wall, it appears that two or three of the flanking towers on the N. E. were formerly ſepulchral monuments; and this is ſome proof that the walls were poſterior to the monuments, and the work of a Chriſtian æra; for the Pagan religion would have condemned the metamorphoſe as profane; beſides, the Greeks and Romans always buried without the walls of their reſpective cities; and the ſame cuſtom was religiouſly obſerved all over the Eaſt.

On the top of one of the higheſt rocky hills, N. W. of the ruins of Palmyra, is an old caſtle; the aſcent to which is ſteep and rugged. It is a mean ſtructure, not ſo old as the time of Juſtinian, and unworthy of even the Mamalukes; there is a ditch cut round it, which cannot be paſſed without ſome difficulty, the draw-bridge being broken down. In the rock there is a deep hole, intended, perhaps, for a well; but it is now dry. Our travellers were told, that it was built as a place of retreat, by a ſon of the famous Facardine, while his fa-

ther was in Europe. Some Engliſh merchants, who were here in 1691, learned that it had been erected in the latter end of the ſixteenth century by Man Ogle, a prince of the Druſes; but neither of theſe accounts agree with the hiſtory of that people.

THERE is a very extenſive view of the Deſart, which looks not unlike the ſea from the top of this hill to the ſouth; and the eye can here diſtinguiſh the top of mount Libanus on the weſt, and take the bearings of ſome part of Antilibanus.

THERE is one building here, the remains of which are extremely magnificent; and this, in Mr. Wood's opinion, was the temple of the ſun, which being much damaged by the Roman ſoldiers, when Aurelian took the town, that emperor ordered, for the expence of repairing it, three hundred pounds weight of gold, taken from the treaſures of Zenobia; one thouſand eight hundred pounds weight of ſilver, levied upon the people; beſides the jewels of the crown. The ſolidity and height of the walls of its court, tempted the Turks to convert it into a place of ſtrength, and

there on the N. E. and S. they ſtopped up the windows, dug a ditch to the W. and demoliſhed the portico of the grand entrance; building in its place a ſquare tower, to flank that ſide. The court is paved with broad ſtones; but ſo covered with rubbiſh that they are only in a few places perceptible; nor are there any ſtairs to be ſeen, whereby it could have communicated with any other part of the building.

To the E. and S. of this temple there are ſome plantations of olives, and a little corn ſowed, protected from the cattle by mud-walls. Did not the Arabs neglect this ſpot, they might make it extremely agreeable, by properly diſtributing two ſtreams, wherewith it is watered. Theſe, though hot and ſulphurous, are by the inhabitants counted wholeſome and agreeable. The moſt conſiderable of theſe ſtreams riſes W. of the ruins, at the foot of the fountains, in a grotto almoſt high enough to admit of a man's ſtanding upright; the whole bottom is a baſon of clear water, about two feet deep, and the place, on account of the heats, being confined, is uſed as a bath; from it there runs a ſmart cur-

rent through a channel three feet acroſs, and one foot deep; but after a ſhort courſe it is loſt in the ſand. By an old inſcription found here, on an altar ſacred to Jupiter, we learn that this ſtream was much eſteemed while Palmyra flouriſhed, it being under the care of certain people elected thereto by ballot.

THE other ſtream, the ſource whereof Mr. Wood does not fix, contains near the ſame quantity of water; and, after running for ſome time through the ruins, in an antient aqueduct, joins the firſt ſtream, wherewith it ſinks into the ſand. The Arabs ſpeak of a third ſtream that has been for ſome time loſt among the rubbiſh. As we have no reaſon to imagine that the waters of Palmyra have undergone any alteration but what has purely riſen from neglect, we are ſurpriſed that no mention is made of them by the Engliſh merchants who were formerly here, they being certainly as much worth notice, as the Pactolus, the Meles, and other Grecian rivers, and contain rather more water, except in times of rain.

THE town was, however, well enough

ſupplied by water, conveyed to it through an aqueduct, of which we before took ſome notice; it is ſaid by ſome people to extend as far as the mountains of Damaſcus. It was ſolidly built under ground, and had openings in ſeveral places to keep it clean. There are a few inſcriptions on it in Palmyrene characters; but none of them legible.

THE valley of Salt, whence Damaſcus and the neighbouring towns are ſupplied with that commodity, lies in the Deſart, three or four miles S. E. of the ruins of Palmyra. In this place David is ſuppoſed to have ſmote the Syrians, as mentioned in II. Samuel, chap. 8. ver. 13. The ground is impregnated with ſalt to a conſiderable depth. Here they have a way of hollowing the ground to about a foot deep, and from the rain water, which lodges therein, a fine white ſalt is gathered.

CHAP. III.

Some conjectures advanced concerning the antient ſtate of Palmyra.

THE preſent grand remains of Palmyra are too ſtriking and magnificent, to admit of our being indifferent with reſpect to its condition in antient times: wherefore we ſhall here attempt to throw ſome lights upon it, by examining who was its founder, how a ſpot like this, divided by an inhoſpitable deſert from the reſt of the world, came to be choſen for its ſituation; and from what quarter it drew the riches neceſſary to its ſupport.

Is it not a little ſtrange that hiſtory ſcarcely furniſhes us with any information, except ſuch as is purely conjectural, concerning either Balbec or Palmyra? and yet we no where elſe find ſuch noble remains of antiquity, of which, however, we have little or no knowledge but that which is ſupplied by inſcriptions. Does not this want convey inſtruction, and convince us

of the emptineſs of vanity, of the inſtability of human grandeur? The fate of theſe two cities differs from every other; we have no teſtimonies of what they were, but their own noble fragments: while, though not a ſingle ſtone marks the ſituation of Troy, Babylon, and Memphis, we are by books ſufficiently acquainted with their importance and changes of fortune. This chaſm in hiſtory may be perhaps owing to the loſs of books; or perhaps the antients did not look upon the buildings of theſe places as worth their regard, being vaſtly inferior to many others which they boaſted. If the latter be a true ſtate of the caſe, is not our admiration of their works very excuſable? May not their ſilence, in regard of Balbec, juſtify what they advance about Babylon? and their not mentioning Palmyra, be a ſort of proof of the magnificence of Greece and Egypt?

Mr. Wood, in order to ſettle an enquiry into the hiſtory of Palmyra upon a ſure footing, preſents us with ſuch materials as he could collect concerning it, in a ſhort review of the revolutions of Syria.

In the Arabic tranſlation of the Chro-

nicles, book ii. chap. 8. Palmyra is mentioned as ſubſiſting before the days of Solomon; but John of Antioch, ſurnamed Malala, informs us, that it was built by that monarch on the very ſpot where his father ſlew the Philiſtine chief, and in honour of that memorable action. Abul Farai goes farther; and among many other peculiarities, ſets down the year of its foundation: but theſe and other accounts of the earlier ſtate of Palmyra are not to be regarded; for which reaſon we ſhall go on to ſuch hiſtorical authority as may merit quotation from its character of veracity.

We find, in the 9th chapter of the firſt book of Kings, and the 8th of the 2d of Chronicles, that Solomon erected a city in the Wilderneſs, and called it Tedmor: and we are told by Joſephus, in the firſt book of his Antiquities, that ſome time after the Greeks and Romans diſtinguiſhed it by the name of Palmyra, even whilſt its firſt name was ſtill retained by the Syrians: and this is confirmed by St. Jerom, who ſays, that Tedmor and Palmyra are the Syrian and Greek names of the ſame place; and the country Arabs, even at this time, call

it by the former name. In this circumſtance they are remarkably particular, preſerving the antient denomination of places thro' various revolutions; and in ſpite of others given by the Turks or aliens. Thus the Acca of the Old Teſtament is at this day called by them Acca; and the Greek name Ptolemais, in which that of Acca was for ſome time ſwallowed up, is loſt through diſuſe.

Our curious enquirer does dot pretend abſolutely to aſſert that theſe ruins were the works of Solomon. He only delivers ſuch an opinion as being that of the preſent inhabitants, who, among many other particulars, point out the wiſe man's ſeraglio, the tomb of his favourite concubine, &c. &c. and ſay, "All theſe things were "done by Solomon the ſon of David, aſ- "ſiſted by ſpirits."

However, ſuch ſtructures as might have been here erected by Solomon, we will ſuppoſe to have been entirely demoliſhed by Nebuchadonezar, who, in his march to the ſiege of Jeruſalem, deſtroyed this city, as we are aſſured by John of Antioch. For it is almoſt improbable, that buildings in

ſuch elegant ſtyle, could be prior to the footing of the Greeks in Syria; and taking this for granted, we ſhall not be ſurprized that Xenophon takes no notice of it in his retreat of Cyrus the younger, tho' he is very exact in deſcribing the Deſart. Neither ſhall we wonder that it is not mentioned by Alexander, who paſſed alſo thro' the Deſart, in his way to Thepſacus on the Euphrates, where he croſſed the river, as well as Darius and Cyrus the younger.

FROM its ſituation between Antioch and Seleucia, and its being an important barrier againſt the Parthians, one would imagine it had been built by ſome of the Seleucidæ; though we can find nothing of it in their hiſtory: and yet no time is ſo proper to enquire about it, as from the death of Alexander to the reduction of Syria to a Roman province.

THAT the æra of Seleucus was uſed at Palmyra is proved by many inſcriptions, whence it may be inferred that the place ſubmitted to Alexander, and was for ſome time governed by his ſucceſſors; but this evidence could not be looked upon as abſolute proof, were it not ſupported by col-

lateral facts; becauſe it might have reaſonably been ſaid, that the inhabitants of Palmyra uſed the æra of the Seleucidæ only, as common with their neighbours. Let us go farther; and we ſhall not find this city taken any notice of, even when Pompey reduced Syria to a Roman province, and when a taſte for the polite arts began to be ſo prevalent, that architecture, painting, and ſculpture, were objects not unworthy of the attention of a Roman general.

Is it not unaccountable that a place like Palmyra, capable of gratifying both avarice and knowledge, ſhould not as yet be known? Nor is the name admitted to a place in hiſtory, till Appian, in the fifth book of his Civil Wars, ſpeaks of Mark Anthony as attempting to plunder it; but the inhabitants eſcaped by croſſing the river Euphrates with their beſt effects, and defending the paſſage with arrows. At this time, ſays our author, the Palmyrenes were merchants; they ſupplied the Romans with the commodities of Arabia and the Indies; and his real motive for attacking them was to enrich his troops: tho'

to give his conduct the colour of juſtice, he advanced, that they had broken the neutrality ſubſiſting between the Romans and the Parthians. Thus then it is plain that they were a wealthy free people in the time of Mark Anthony, but how long they had been ſo we are left to gueſs. Their riches and trade muſt have been of ſome ſtanding; and in forty years after they ran into expences and luxuries, that muſt have required a conſiderable capital, as we are taught by their inſcriptions: nor are we more clear as to the time of their becoming a free people.

Dr. Halley, in his diſſertation on the antient ſtate of Palmyra, publiſhed in the Philoſophical Tranſactions, gives it as his opinion, "That when the Romans got "footing in theſe parts, and the Parthians "ſeemed to put a ſtop to their farther con-"queſts in the eaſt, then was the city of "Palmyra, by reaſon of its ſituation, be-"ing a frontier town in the midſt of a ſan-"dy deſert, where armies could not ſub-"ſiſt to reduce it by force, courted and "careſſed by the contending princes, and "permitted to continue a free ſtate." But

their freedom muſt have been of a much older ſtanding than what the doctor here imagines; becauſe their importance as a frontier town, was as conſiderable before as after the Roman conqueſts. We come now to the only antient account of this place extant; it is delivered down to us by Pliny, who, though he has collected the moſt ſtriking circumſtances concerning it, yet omits to mention the buildings: but we ſhould firſt obſerve, that the name and every thing elſe relating to this noble city, was overlooked by the curious and accurate Strabo, one of the moſt faithful of all antient geographers.

"THE city of Palmyra is nobly ſituated, "the ſoil is rich, and it is pleaſantly wa- "tered; it is on all ſides ſurrounded by a "vaſt ſandy deſert, which totally ſeparates "it from the reſt of the world, and has "preſerved its independence between the "two great empires of Rome and Parthia; "their firſt care when at war being to en- "gage it in their intereſt: it is diſtant from "the Parthian Seleucia on the Tigris 337 "miles; from the higheſt part of the Me-

" diterranean 283; and 176 from Damaſ-
" cus."

ALL thoſe circumſtances ſtrongly characteriſe Palmyra, its ſituation being very fine, having a ridge of hills to the weſt, and commanding an extenſive plain to the eaſt: on the hills formerly ſtood many ſepulchral monuments, ſome of which are ſtill to be ſeen, inſpiring with awe and veneration.

THE glebe is ſtill rich, and the ſtreams, of which we have before ſpoken, are very clear and capable of receiving any direction: what Ptolomy, who makes mention of the Palmyrenes, means by the river at Palmyra, is very probably the channel through which theſe ſtreams flow when united. The ſeveral channels of theſe ſtreams were lined with ſtone, to prevent the water from being ſoaked up; and this precaution being now neglected, it is ſoon loſt in the ſand. There is ſome little verdure about the town, and ſmall pains would make the neighbourhood fertile. Though the palm-tree, which will flouriſh in the drieſt ſoil, once perhaps covered theſe hills, and great part of the Deſart, none of them

are now to be found here, nor more than one fig-tree; though the merchants, who travelled hither in 1691 from Aleppo, ſaw ſeveral; and Albufedah mentions both the palm and fig as common at Palmyra.

NOTHING is ſaid of this place either in the expeditions of Trajan or Adrian; and yet it is certain, that both of theſe emperors muſt have paſſed either through or near it. The latter indeed, according to Stephanus, repaired and gave it the name of Andrianople; but we cannot look upon this report as authentic, when we look back and behold Adrian complimented for leſs conſiderable works in many parts of Greece.

FROM Caracalla's coins, it appears that in this prince's time it was a Roman colony; and ſome old inſcriptions inform us, that the people joined Alexander Severus againſt the Perſians. The moſt remarkable figure which Palmyra cut in hiſtory was in the reign of Gallienus; and of this entertaining æra we ſhall ſtrive to give a conciſe account after Zoſimus, Vopiſcus, and Trebellius Pollio.

CHAP. IV.

Account of the antient ſtate of Palmyra continued; with an abſtract of the hiſtory of the famous queen Zenobia.

UNDER the ſhameful indolence of Gallienus, the Roman glory in the eaſt was daily more obſcured; when Odenathus joining that emperor's party, collected the poor remains of the diſcomfitted Romans in Syria, whom he led againſt Sapor king of Perſia, routed his army, and advanced with his victorious troops as far as Cteſiphon, the capital of the empire. On his return from this expedition, poſſeſſed of vaſt wealth, and adored by the Romans as their ſaviour, he was unanimouſly declared Auguſtus, and co-partner of the empire with Gallienus.

THIS Odenathus was a native of Palmyra, but we have no account either of his rank or family; he was courageous and active, remarkably patient of fatigue, and

ſo admirable a politician, that he for a while held the ballance of power between the empires of Perſia and of Rome. His defeat of Baliſta, who in thoſe times of confuſion was a dangerous enemy to the Roman power, at the poſſeſſion of which he aſpired, added conſiderably to his reputation. Baliſta had ſerved under Valerian with honour; and from his private character, as well as his being particularly regarded by that prince, we have reaſon to conclude that the overthrowing him was a very ſignal piece of ſervice. His driving the Goths out of Aſia Minor, where they had committed the moſt violent outrages, was his laſt great action; and it is thought that in this expedition, he was treacherouſly ſlain by his kinſman Mæonius. His ſon Herodes, who differed greatly from his father, being delicate and luxurious to exceſs, ſoon after ſuffered the ſame fate: nor did Mæonius long ſurvive, though he had been ſaluted emperor, being cut to pieces by the ſoldiery.

THE accounts of Odenathus, which have reached poſterity, ſerve rather to ſharpen than ſatisfy curioſity: it is on all ſides a-

greed, that he was a man of great abilities and excellent qualifications. Libanius mentions an oration written in his praiſe by Longinus, which is loſt; and Pollio ſays, that had he not engaged in the Roman intereſt, it muſt at that time have been entirely ruined in the eaſt: nay, he reckons his death a ſort of judgment upon that people.

THE fortune of his queen Zenobia, who ſurvived him, was various and ſurprizing, her character great and extraordinary; by her he is ſaid to have left iſſue two ſons, Hereniacus and Timolaus: but her memory is ſoiled with a ſuppoſition of her having conſented to the deaths of both Odenathus and Herodes; yet this being only mentioned as report, without any certain foundation, to treat it as apocryphal is a compliment which we owe to the remembrance of a woman, otherwiſe ſo well and ſo deſervedly ſpoken of.

HER complexion was dark brown, owing perhaps rather to her hardy manner of living than to conſtitution; her eyes were black, ſparkling with uncommon luſtre; her teeth exceedingly white; her

countenance was ſprightly; her voice ſtrong and clear; her air noble, and her perſon graceful and genteel: her ſtrength was uncommonly great; ſhe inured herſelf much to fatigue, was fond of riding, never uſed any carriage, and often marched three or four miles on foot at the head of her ſoldiers: nor can we have a finer idea of a beautiful Minerva, than ariſes from ſuppoſing her harranguing her army in a helmet. In council ſhe was cautious and prudent, in executing bold and reſolute: ſhe could be open or reſerved, mild or ſevere, at her own option, and never was either out of ſeaſon; ſhe was generous, but never profuſe, and ſo chaſte, that her only end in marriage is ſaid to have been propagation. Her religion is diſputed; by ſome ſhe is ſuppoſed to have been a Jew, but this is not a ſettled point.

She boaſted herſelf deſcended from Ptolomy, and reckoned Cleopatra among her anceſtry. In her dreſs, and manner of giving audience, ſhe emulated the Perſian pomp, but in her banquets imitated the Romans, and drank out of golden cups ſet with precious ſtones. Pollio tells us that

ſhe often drank with her officers; and that, though ſhe was moderate in the uſe of liquors, drinking was a ſport at which ſhe could beat both Perſians and Armenians. This was a power which we may ſuppoſe ſhe uſed politically, to forward her ſchemes, and arrive at a true knowledge of people's different diſpoſitions. No woman was better acquainted with hiſtory, and ſhe abridged that of Alexandria and the Eaſt: ſhe was perfect miſtreſs of the Greek and Egyptian tongues, as well as of the Latin, which ſhe tranſlated into the former, but was diffident of ſpeaking it.

HAVE we not reaſon to be angry with Pollio for being ſo very particular in things of but ſmall conſequence relating to this great queen, ſuch as her teeth and complexion, and yet being ſilent in things of much greater importance, ſuch as the battles ſhe fought, or the laws which ſhe enacted, ſince for theſe we muſt have recourſe to the hiſtory of her cotemporary Roman emperors, with which hers is particularly connected? That ſhe attended her huſband in the field is a matter not to be conteſted, ſince the emperor Aurelian at-

tributes to her the honour of his victories over the Perſians, as may be ſeen by his letters to the ſenate.

AFTER the death of Odenathus, Zenobia aſſumed the reins of government in the name of her children, and, renouncing the alliance with Rome, attacked and totally routed Heraclianus the Roman general, who was ſent againſt the Perſians, he himſelf narrowly eſcaping from falling into her hands. This victory in ſome meaſure gratified her ambition, as it left her in quiet poſſeſſion of Syria and Meſopotamia. With her reaſons for breaking the engagements of her family with the Romans we are not acquainted, but ſhe will be eaſily excuſed for the breach by ſuch as conſider the hateful character of Gallienus, who was a few months after murdered at Milan. The incapacity of this prince was great: in lewdneſs he excelled Heliogabalus, in cruelty he outdid Nero: his miſconduct had thrown the Roman affairs into great perplexity; his vices were innumerable, and he had no good quality but a love of letters. How different was the character of his ſucceſſor Claudius, who,

poſſeſſed of the valour of Trajan, the piety of Antoninus, and the moderation of Auguſtus, applied himſelf to reforming the ſtate! The taſk was inconceivably difficult, yet from his progreſs we have room to believe, that, had he reigned long enough, he would have reſtored happineſs and tranquillity to the empire. While the exigency of publick affairs claimed the attention of Claudius nearer home, Zenobia aſſerted an hereditary right to the dominion of Egypt, as being deſcended from Ptolomy; and having ſecured a ſtrong party there in her favour, headed by a perſon called Timogenes, ſhe ſent thither Zabdas, a gallant officer, who had been bred under Odenathus; and he, defeating the Egyptian army, poſſeſſed himſelf of the province, which he left under a guard of five thouſand men, and then returned to Palmyra.

An account of this action reaching Probus, the prefect of Egypt, then on a naval expedition againſt ſome dangerous pirates that infeſted the neighbouring ſeas, he returned, and not only drove the Palmyrenes from their new acquiſition, but routed Zabdas, who came to their aſſiſt-

ance with a good army; however, in endeavouring totally to cut off the retreat of the vanquiſhed, through his ignorance of the country he expoſed himſelf to a ſurprize, in which his troops were totally defeated, and himſelf taken priſoner; a diſgrace which he could not outlive, but, dying by his own hand, left Zenobia miſtreſs of Egypt; and ſhe afterwards added to her dominions the beſt part of Aſia Minor.

Her progreſs alarmed Claudius very much, who, being now near the end of the ſecond year of his reign, reſolved to turn his forces againſt her, but was cut off by the plague at Syrmium in Pannonia. He was ſucceeded by Aurelian, who was not however ſecured in his power without ſome trouble, and who, before he thought of relieving the eaſtern empire, reformed the police at Rome, and reduced the Goths, Vandals, and Germans. Theſe great taſks being compleated, he croſſed the Boſphorus at Bizantium, and having taken Tyana in Cappadocia, after ſome little oppoſition, he proceeded to Antioch, of which he poſſeſſed himſelf by ſtratagem. By two battles, one fought here, the other

at Emeſa, Aurelian recovered the eaſtern provinces, and forced the queen to ſhelter herſelf from his victorious arms within the walls of her capital. In the former of theſe engagements the excellency of the Palmyrene cavalry had like to have proved fatal to the Romans, who owed their ſafety entirely to their ſuperior ſkill in the art of war.

How ſtrange, how unaccountable are the viciſſitudes of fortune! a woman, governing a ſmall and inſignificant territory in a deſert, poſſeſſes herſelf of the dominions of the Ptolomies and Seleucidæ; Egypt owns her ſway to the ſouthward, to the northward her conqueſts extend even to the Black Sea and the Boſphorus, and a ſingle city, the hiſtory of which is almoſt entirely unknown, becomes the capital of a moſt extenſive empire. Its reign was not indeed of long continuance, and a very ſhort time ſhews its glory fallen, its ſuperb buildings in ruins.

Aurelian having taken all neceſſary precautions to ſupply his army with proviſions, proceeds to Palmyra, not without being conſiderably harraſſed in his march

by the Syrian banditti. Arriving at length before the walls of the town, he laid close siege to it, and was gallantly resisted by the garrison. Being wearied out with military operations, the emperor had recourse to negociations, and made some offers to Zenobia, which she rejected with contempt and insolence, bidding him remember that her ancester Cleopatra preferred death to disgrace and dishonour; yet even at this time her affairs were in the most desperate state. This conduct exasperated Aurelian very much; he pushed a general attack with more vigour than ever upon the town, where provisions were growing scarce, while the Roman army was in no fear of wanting; and at the same time he vanquished Zenobia's Persian auxiliaries, and bought off the Saracens and Armenians from assisting her.

The besieged, being reduced almost to the last extremity, had no resource but that of applying to their allies the Persians, in the most pressing manner, for succour: and this resolution being agreed upon in council, Zenobia herself undertook the carrying of it into execution, and, mounting

a dromedary, ſet out for Perſia, but was taken priſoner as ſhe was about to croſs the Euphrates, by a party of horſe diſpatched after her to that end by Aurelian. The city ſoon after ſurrendered to the emperor's mercy, who ſpared the inhabitants, but carried off the beſt part of their riches, leaving behind him a garriſon of ſix hundred archers, who in ſome years after were cut off by the inhabitants, moſt of whom were, by the emperor's order, in conſequence of the maſſacre, put to death, and the town quite ruined.

At Emeſa the emperor ſet on foot an enquiry into the conduct of Zenobia, and her reaſons for it; and here it was ſhe ſtained her before great character, and ſullied all her laurels, by betraying her beſt friends, whom the emperor ſacrificed to his reſentment; among them was the renowned Longinus, who wrote upon the ſublime. It was this philoſopher that prevailed upon her to reject the terms of peace which Aurelian had offered to Zenobia, and he was ſaid to have dictated a very haughty letter, which ſhe had written to him at the ſame time. He met his fate

with an intrepidity that throws additional luſtre round his character, and his miſtreſs was reſerved to grace a Roman triumph. She afterwards married, and had children at Conche, on the road from Rome to the antient Tibur, where the emperor aſſigned ſome lands for her maintenance; and the remains of her villa are to this day ſhewn to travellers.

PALMYRA having now intirely loſt its liberty, was undoubtedly governed by the Romans, and, from a Latin inſcription ſtill extant, we are informed, that Hierocles was for the fifth time preſident of the provinces when Diocleſian erected here ſome magnificent buildings, the remains of which prove that the art of architecture was in a flouriſhing condition in that emperor's time; though Sir William Temple is of opinion, that Trajan's bridge over the Danube was the laſt inſtance given by the antients of their proficiency in that ſcience.

IN the year of Chriſt 400 the firſt Illyrian legion was quartered here, but Procopius gives us reaſon to think that the place was ſo little regarded as to be ſometimes left without a Roman garriſon; for he ſays

that Juſtinian repaired and ſupplied it with water, after its having been for ſome time near quite deſerted; and then left behind him ſome ſoldiers.

THE Roman hiſtory makes no farther mention of Palmyra.

THAT church-hiſtory does not furniſh us with any intelligence concerning this town, will not appear ſurprizing, when it is remembered, that from the civil revolutions of it, it appears that Chriſtianity could not have been long the eſtabliſhed religion. Its various fortunes from the time of Mahomet are very obſcure. That it was uſed as a place of ſtrength is proved by the alterations made in the caſtle on the hill, and the temple of the ſun, which muſt have been intended for defence, and are not more than five or ſix hundred years old. There were two thouſand Jews among the inhabitants of Palmyra in the twelfth century, according to the account of Benjamin Tudulenſis, an ignorant ſuperſtitious traveller of that ſect, who then paſſed through here.

FEW Arabian writers make any mention of this place; among thoſe that do, the

beſt is Albufeday, prince of the neighbouring city of Hamak, who, ignorant probably both of its hiſtory and Greek name, calls it Tedmor, deſcribes its ſituation, ſoil, and properties, ſpeaks of its antient columns, and tells us it had a wall and a caſtle; but is it not ſtrange that many of the beſt writers on antient geography who make mention of Palmyra, ſeem ignorant of its ruins; and which, had they been uſed in fortifying places, a common caſe in war, had it ſtood conveniently, might perhaps have never been miſſed? Can there be a ſtronger inſtance of the precarious fate of even the greateſt monuments of human pride and art?

In the latter end of the ſeventeenth century Palmyra was viſited by ſome Engliſh merchants belonging to Aleppo, who, being plundered by the Arabs, were obliged to turn back, without having ſeen it; however, they renewed their attempt thirteen years afterwards, and ſucceeded, remaining here four days to ſatisfy their curioſity. A ſhort account of this expedition was publiſhed in the Philoſophical Tranſactions; it is penned with great truth and candor,

and occaſioned Dr. Halley to write an account of its antient hiſtory, with ſome remarks on the inſcriptions found there; as alſo a commentary upon them, and a hiſtory of the place by abbè Seller: the latter of theſe, according to Mr. Wood, is diffuſe and incorrect, the former too ſhort; however, he ſays that they were both uſeful to him in his enquiry, in which no man could have been more exact, and from which it appears to him, that the buildings of Palmyra were repaired by Adrian, Aurelian, Juſtinian, and, laſtly, by Diocleſian.

CHAP. V.

Enquiry into the antient ſtate of Palmyra continued.

OUR author imagines, that among the remains of Palmyra the ruins of two different periods of antiquity may be eaſily diſcerned; the older owing its diſſolution to time, the other bearing all the marks of violence; yet, upon the whole,

there is a greater likeneſs in the architecture of this place than can be obſerved either at Rome, Athens, or other great cities. The inſcriptions here are badly done, being moſtly honorary, and ſome few ſepulchral; the names are generally in Palmyrene characters, and the lateſt have Roman prenomina. From them it is plain that ſome of the buildings were ſtanding before the birth of Chriſt, nor any of them ſo modern as the deſtruction of the city by Aurelian, the one in Latin excepted, which mentions Diocleſian.

THE intelligence regarding the hiſtory of this place to be gathered either from the inſcriptions, cameos, intaglios, or medals found here, was very trifling; of the latter they only found a few Roman in braſs, of the lower empire. Among all the antient fragments of Palmyra there is not the leaſt mention of Zenobia to be traced: 'Perhaps,' ſays the ingenious Dr. Halley, 'the Romans, irritated at her re-'ſiſtance and courage, defaced every thing 'that was intended to do her honour; or, 'it may poſſibly be, that the ſhortneſs and 'continued confuſion of her reign prevent-

'ed her from receiving any monumental 'oblations either from compliment or flat-'tery.'

PALMYRA muſt have been an admirable ſituation, and much frequented on account of its water by all people who paſſed between the Mediterranean and the Euphrates, and it is not unreaſonable to ſuppoſe that it was the high road to the Indies before the Portugueſe diſcovered the Cape of Good Hope. There ſeems to be no doubt but that the face of the country was then the ſame that it is now, for the Deſart is as little liable to change as any part of the world. The ſupply of water which it boaſts, and the ſcarcity of this uſeful commodity, every where round, was, according to Joſephus, Solomon's reaſon for building upon this ſpot which he found watered.

THE Perſians, when poſſeſſed of Aſia, endeavoured to water the Deſart by means of aqueducts running under ground from mount Taurus, but theſe being eaſily deſtroyed, laſted but a very ſhort time; every perſon however who brought water hither had a property in land granted for five generations. As without that element

an army could not ſubſiſt in paſſing the Deſert, the firſt care on each ſide was to ſecure water, as was the caſe in the war between Antiochus the Great and Arſaces.

PERHAPS at the time that Palmyra flouriſhed moſt of its inhabitants were ſo intent upon cultivating the commercial arts, that they avoided at any rate interfering with the quarrels of their neighbours, whence they drew obvious advantages; and thus may the ſilence of hiſtory with regard to it be eaſily accounted for, a country thus peaceably employed affording none of thoſe ſtriking incidents which hiſtory delights to record. 'The Deſert,' ſays the judicious Mr. Wood, 'was to Palmyra what the ſea is to Great Britain, 'both its riches and defence.'

IT is not eaſy to decide what were the connections of the Palmyrenes with the Romans before the time of Odenathus. In the reign of Caracalla they were a Roman colony; that they aſſiſted Alexander Severus againſt Artaxerxes proves only an alliance; and whether their having in ſome of their inſcriptions eraſed names that were odious to the Roman republick, and

in others acquieſced in the deification awarded to two of the deceaſed Cæſars, mean merely a compliment paid to friends and allies? or argues a cloſer intereſt in their religion and politicks? is what we leave the reader to determine.

THEIR ſudden fall from eaſe and opulence to confuſion and poverty, is eaſily accounted for. Palmyra ſubſiſted only by commerce; that vaniſhed with their liberty; the people then, being out of the road of increaſing their ſtock, lived upon what Aurelian had ſpared them, as long as it laſted; when that was waſted, they deſerted the town through neceſſity, to ſeek a more comfortable ſituation.

JUSTINIAN knew that it was a valuable frontier, and therefore he fortified it. If the Turks ſeem ignorant of its value in this light, it is becauſe of the weakneſs of the Perſians, whoſe inteſtine commotions prevent their making any advances on this ſide. And, moreover, the inſolence and ineurſions of the neighbouring Arabs would make the ſupport of a garriſon here troubleſome and expenſive, yet, ſhould they loſe Bagdat, theſe inconveniences muſt be

obviated, and Palmyra be again fortified. That the ruins are ſo great and entire muſt be owing principally to the climate's being dry, and there being no other city any where near that might have applied the ruins to other uſes.

THE moſt perfect piece of antiquity which our author ever ſaw is a Mauſoleum, now one thouſand ſeven hundred and fifty-four years old, the floors and ſtairs of which are ſtill entire, though the building conſiſts of five ſtories. An inſcription upon it ſtill legible informs us, that it was built by Jambelicus, ſon of Mocimus, as a burial-place for himſelf and his family in the year 314, which anſwers to the third year of the Chriſtian æra. This is the oldeſt building in the place. The moſt modern is that of Diocleſian before-mentioned, and the ſpace between the erecting of each is about three hundred years.

THE Palmyrenes were aſſuredly Pagans, but that they had an high veneration for the ſun in common with their Syrian neighbours, appears from the magnificent temple erected to that divinity, the remains of which are ſtill to be ſeen.

History tells us that their government was republican, but we have no traces left either of their laws or police. The only literary performance of theirs which has escaped the devastations of time is, *Longinus's treatise on the sublime*, whence we have great reason to judge favourably of the state of letters among them. We know but little of their manners and customs. From Pollio we learn that Zenobia, with all her military virtues, was fond of the Persian luxury, and that Herodes, the son of Odenathus, was one of the most delicate creatures in the world, *Homo omnium delicatissimus*, &c.

As, from their situation, agriculture and rural improvements could enter but little into their plan of life, the great magnificence of their buildings in the city wherein all their pleasures as well as their business centered, is more easily accounted for. But that there should be no remains of a theatre, a circus, or any place for publick games, is really surprizing, when the love which the Greeks and Romans had for these sort of diversions is recollected, and no antient buildings better resist the assaults

of time, our travellers in their tour thro' Aſia Minor having ſeen above twenty marble theatres, moſt of them pretty entire: yet it is very probable that theſe people had their publick games, ſince, in one of the inſcriptions ſtill extant, Zenobius is complimented for his liberality during the time that he filled the office of ædile, a magiſtrate that ſuperintended the publick diverſions, as well as the regulation of the market, in which latter employment I do not ſee how he could have exerciſed that virtue. In the magnificence of their monuments they approached very near the Egyptians, and they copied their methods of embalming exactly, though our author complains he could not find an entire mummy any where here, the Arabs having ſpoiled the monuments in hope of finding treaſure; however, he procured the hair of a woman platted according to the method uſed at this day in Arabia.

'FROM theſe few hints,' ſays Mr. Wood, 'we ſee that the people of Palmyra copied 'after great models in their manners, their 'vices, and their virtues: their funeral 'cuſtoms were from Egypt, their luxury

'was Perſian, and their letters and arts
'were from the Greeks. Their ſituation
'in the midſt of theſe three great nations
'makes it reaſonable to ſuppoſe they a-
'dopted ſeveral other of their cuſtoms and
'manners; but to ſay much more on that
'head from our ſcanty materials, would
'be to indulge too much in mere conjec-
'ture, which ſeems rather the privilege of
'the reader than of the writer.

'How much it is to be regretted that
'we do not know more of a country which
'has left ſuch monuments of its magnifi-
'cence, where Zenobia was queen, and
'Longinus was firſt miniſter!'

END of the FIRST VOLUME.